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HISTORY OF BURFORD
OXFORDSHIRE.



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Frederic I. Cooper

John D. Cooper

Jan 1852

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St. Mary of the Angels

A
HISTORY
OF THE
TOWN OF BURFORD,
OXFORDSHIRE.

BY THE
REV. JOHN FISHER,
LATE CURATE OF BURFORD;

AUTHOR OF THE
"HISTORY OF BERKELEY," GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

CHELTENHAM:
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TO
HIS GRACE
THE DUKE OF ST. ALBANS,
EARL OF BURFORD,
AND BARON OF HEDDINGTON,
ETC., ETC., ETC.

THIS VOLUME

IS, BY PERMISSION, MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

BY HIS GRACE'S MOST HUMBLE,

AND MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.

P R E F A C E .

THE compilation of a local History is always one involving much labour and research, but especially so when the inhabitants of the Town that is the subject of it do not possess any Antiquarian taste and are unable to render the requisite information. The Author of this small Work has felt this difficulty and discouragement, yet he has spared neither toil nor zeal in collecting materials, and if they are more scanty than he or his Readers could have desired it must be attributed to the cause above alluded to. Important documents relating to the Church-property and Town Charities* in the possession of THOMAS CHEATLE, Esq., have been unreservedly placed at his disposal, and to that gentleman he returns his grateful thanks for the privilege so kindly accorded. He also begs to offer his sincere thanks to W. R. COOKE, Esq., for his liberality in presenting two Illustrations to the Work, and to five other kind friends for their contributions towards other Illustrations, without which assistance the Work would probably not have been published in consequence of the inadequate number of

* An account of these Charities was published by the Charity-Commissioners in the year 1827, and therefore will not be inserted in this Work.

Subscribers. The Author, finding the place full of Anti-quarian interest and devoid of any regular History, undertook the task of supplying one, and he trusts it may be acceptable to the inhabitants of this ancient town as well as to occasional Visitors.

If it succeed in imparting more interest in the antiquities and historical events connected with Burford and the locality his object will have been attained.

J. FISHER.

Wonastow Court,

Near Monmouth.

4 Sept. 1861.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

	PAGE
The Town	1
Privilege of Hunting	9
Origin of Vert and Venison	11
Royal Visits	12
The Trade, Poor-rates, Market, Fairs, and Streets	13, 14
Guildenford, and the Rectory	15
The Vicarage, and Cob-hall	16
Inscriptions on houses	17
Assizes and Sessions, Petty Sessions, Dissenting Chapels, and Population-tables	18
A Proverb, the Bridge	19
A curious riddle	21
Of Stones	22
Kitt's Quarries, and Sainfoin	23
A cutting-roller	24

CHAPTER II.

The Church	25
West front	26
South porch	27
The Tower and Steeple ; Curfew-bell	28
North side and Nave	29
Font and North Aisle	30
South Aisle	31
St. Thomas's Chapel ; Stone Coffins	32
Leggare's and Bartholomew's Chapels	33
The Chancel	34
The Vestry, and Tanfield's Chapel	35
Pynnock's Chapel and Priory Pew	36
The Churchyard	37

CHAPTER III.

The Manor	39
The battle of <i>Bannockburn</i>	41

	PAGE
Earl <i>Despencer</i> executed as a traitor	42
<i>Thomas</i> of <i>Woodstock</i> murdered	44

CHAPTER IV.

The Priory ; derivation of <i>Harman</i>	51
Distich on <i>Francis</i> Lord <i>Lovell</i>	52
The Chapel, the Gardens, and a murder here	54

CHAPTER V.

EMINENT MEN.

<i>William Lenthall</i>	56
His death-bed confession	58
Oliver Cromwell's two letters to him	60
<i>Peter Heylyn</i>	71
<i>Lucius Cary</i> , afterwards Lord <i>Falkland</i>	73
Slain at the battle of <i>Newbury</i>	75
The <i>Sortes Virgilianæ</i>	77
Lord <i>Falkland's</i> petition to the King in behalf of his rebellious Son	79
<i>Marchmont Needam</i>	81
<i>John Wilmot</i> , afterwards Earl of <i>Rochester</i>	85
<i>Charles Jenkinson</i> , afterwards Baron of <i>Hawkesbury</i>	88
<i>William Beechey</i>	90

CHAPTER VI.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The <i>Soil</i> ; <i>Fulbrook</i> Chapelry ; <i>Pancake-bell</i>	93
Tablets of <i>Benefactions</i> and <i>Inscriptions</i> in the Church	94
The Free-School	96
The <i>Alms-houses</i> ; <i>Getting a prize</i>	97
<i>Parish-Registers</i> ; the Vicar	98
The Manor of <i>Fulbrook</i>	99

ERRATA.

Page.	Line.	
3.	11.	After the word <i>Litchfield</i> a full stop instead of a comma.
4.	5.	For <i>Æthelhum</i> read <i>Æthelhun</i> .
"	9.	For <i>Æthelhum</i> read <i>Æthelhun</i> .
8.	28.	For <i>parden</i> read <i>pardon</i> .
15.	27.	For <i>closchy</i> read <i>close by</i> .
35.	23.	For 1739 read 1629.
73.	9.	After the word <i>matter</i> a full stop instead of a comma.
88.	11.	For <i>Political</i> read <i>Poetical</i> .
"	24.	For <i>published</i> read <i>published</i> .
99.	1.	For £13 read £31.
105.	15.	For <i>journed</i> read <i>journeyed</i> .

HISTORY

OF THE

TOWN OF BURFORD, ETC.

CHAPTER I.

THE TOWN.

“ ‘Describe the Borough’—though our idle tribe
May love description, can we so describe,
That you shall fairly streets and buildings trace,
And all that gives distinction to a place ?”

CRABBE.

BURFORD is a market-town, in the Hundred of Bampton, situate on the western extremity of the county of Oxford, and seated on a southern ascent on the banks of the river Windrush, 72 miles from London by the road through High Wycombe, and 76 through Henley-on-Thames, 18 N.W. from Oxford, 7 from Witney, and 22 from Cheltenham.

This river takes its rise in the Cottswold hills, and possesses some abstergent qualities which contribute to the whiteness and softness of the excellent and indeed unrivalled blankets manufactured at Witney. It is like-

wise celebrated for its Jack, Trout, Eels, and Cray-fish, which are plentiful and of the finest quality.

Burford in Saxon *Beorgford*. Camden says, *Beorg* means a *hill* or *barrow*; hence the derivation of the name, a town built on a *Beorg* or *hill*, at the bottom of which was a *ford*, and over which a bridge was built in the year 1416. A Roman *barrow* has never been discovered here.

In the *Saxon times* *Ethelred*, 7th king of Mercia, committed the county of Oxford, as the southern part of his kingdom, to *Berthwald*, his nephew, a son of his brother *Wulfhere*,* who under the title of king had the command of this county, and who with the joint authority of *Ethelred* convened a Synod *here* (at Burford) in A.D. 685, at which were present the two kings *Ethelred* and *Berthwald*, *Theodore* archbishop of *Canterbury*, *Sexwulph* bishop of *Litchfield*, *Bosel* bishop of *Worcester*, and others, where king *Berthwald* gave by Charter to *Adhelm*, abbot of *Malmesbury*, forty *Cassates* of land at *Sumerford* in *Wiltshire*; which *Adhelm*, afterwards bishop of *Sherborne*, now only priest and abbot, was here present, and at command of this Synod wrote a book against the error of the British Christians in the observation of Easter, and other different rites wherein they disturbed the peace of the Church: the reading of which book reclaimed many of those *Britons* who were under the *West Saxons*.†

After this time Oxfordshire was an unmolested part

* Will. Malms. de Pontif. l. 5.

† M. S. Lieger-book of Malmesbury.

of the *Mercian* kingdom, during the reign of *Ethelred* who repenting of his former life, quits his crown, and becomes a monk in the year 704, and of his successor and nephew *Cenred*, 8th king of Mercia, who resigned his crown to *Ceolred* or *Celred*, 9th king of Mercia, (*Ethelred's* son) A.D. 709, who makes war with *Ina*, king of the *west Saxons*, at *Wodensburh*, in Wiltshire, where the victory remained doubtful, prodigious slaughter being made in both armies,* the peace was renewed. In the year of our Lord 716 *Ceolred* departed this life, and was buried in the Cathedral church of Litchfield, He dying without issue, *Ethelbald*, the son of *Alweo*, the son of *Eoppa*, the son of *Wibba* second king of Mercia, was advanced to the royal dignity, and was the 10th king of Mercia. The first action of consequence performed by *Ethelbald*, was his invasion upon *Ethelheard*, king of the *west Saxons*, in the year 723; he besieged his chief town of *Sommerton*, in the county of Somerset, in the year 733; afterwards he invaded Northumberland, A.D. 740, gained great spoils, and returned in triumph back again to Mercia.

He again invaded the *west Saxons*, committed many outrages, put several parts of that country under tribute and contribution, which so provoked the princes and the people that *Cuthred*, successor to *Ethelheard*, being no longer able to endure the proud exactions and insolences of the *Mercian* king, raised an army and marched into these borders of *Mercia* in the year 752†.

* Mat. West. sub. an.

† Chron. Sax.

Here (at Beorgford) king *Ethelbald* met him,* where they began a most desperate battle, which was gained by *Cuthred*. The success in this important battle is said to have been chiefly owing to the great valour and conduct of *Æthelhum*, a nobleman of great repute in the kingdom, and who had rebelled against his sovereign but was pardoned. *Ethelbald* had a standard whereon was emblazoned a golden dragon, carried before him by *Æthelhum*, who was killed with a lance by the standard-bearer of king *Cuthred*, which taking of the colours was a great encouragement to the *west Saxons*; but the victory was long depending, and not gained without considerable slaughter on either side.

At last king *Ethelbald* was forced to fly, his army was overthrown with prodigious slaughter, he himself, with the remnant, making their escape by a precipitate flight, and leaving a joyful victory to *Cuthred*, who by this defeat gained the greatest part of this county.† This battle was fought at a place still called *Battle-edge*, west of the town, between it and Upton. In memory of *Ethelbald's* standard being taken, and of this victory, there was long a custom here (not within memory) of making a dragon yearly, and carrying it up and down the town with great merriment on midsummer-eve; to which the townsmen added a giant, for what reason not known.

At the time of the *Norman Survey*, *Burford* was held by Earl *Alberic*; and after the *Conquest* it was the town of *Robert*, Earl of Gloucester, whose son

* Chron. Sax.

† Mat. West.

William had a Charter granted by king Henry II. to "this his town of Burford," granting it all the privileges of the city of Oxford, "*Gildam et omnes consuetudines quas habent liberi Burgenses de Oxeneforde*"; "most of which," *Plot* writes, "it has since lost, and chiefly by the overruling power of Sir *Lawrence Tanfield*, Lord chief Baron in Queen *Elizabeth's* time: yet it still retains the face of a *Corporation*, having a common seal," &c. p. 356. Who the succeeding Lords of this manor were will be reserved for a separate chapter.

This town was a very ancient Borough, and according to *Brown Willis* sent a member to Parliament, but was relieved from this formerly expensive privilege by petition.

It was governed by two Bailiffs and ten Burgesses, and is described in old documents thus, "The Bailiffs and Burgesses of Burford."

Their duties, however, were neither numerous nor onerous. The supervision of some Charities, upon the proceeds of one of which, by will of its Founder, they feasted in true aldermanic style once a year;* and the presentation to, and visitation of the Grammar School, constituted, the author believes, the whole of their official duties. They elected a Corporate-body annually, though they were clothed with no magisterial power, nor did they support any political importance.

At a very early period the borough of *Burford* was a place of much consequence, and was considered of sufficient importance to be from time to time favoured with

* This custom has been discontinued some years.

no less than sixteen charters, the parchments of which are still preserved by T. Cheatle, Esq.

The Corporation has for many years been on the wane owing to the non-appointment of fresh members in the place of those who died, and in December, 1859, the Corporate-body was declared to be extinct; and the management of the many and valuable charities of the town was given up to the Charity-Commissioners. In the Visitation of the county of *Oxford*, 1574, the Seal of this town is thus entered: a lion rampant guardant within a circle, (not on a shield), and on the circle "Sigilom Commone Borg et vile de Boreforde." This seal (together with the mace, now in the possession of T. Cheatle, Esq.,) contains a device but not *Armorial* bearings.

The following are copies of entries in the Burgesses' account book:—

"An^o 1566. P^d to the Kyng of Heraldes for Regestryng the towne Seale. £20."

"An^o 1574. More paid to the Haroulde of Armes for oure Seale. £10."

Plot says, "the *common seal* of *Burford* is the very same with *Henley-on-Thames*, as described in the map, if they differ not in colours, which I could not learn." p. 356. He was in *error* here, since the Corporation-seal of *Henley* in 1624 was the letter H, surmounted by the Royal badge, of the rays of the sun issuing from a cloud, crowned with this legend: *Sigillum villæ de Henley*. With this badge also the money coined at *Henley* was stamped.



THE TOWN SEAL.

as the clocks are striking midnight. He has beset some hundreds of mutineers, who could only fire some shots out of windows, has dissipated the mutiny, trodden down the *levelling* principle out of English affairs once more. Here is the last scene of the business. The rigorous *Court-martial* having now sat, the decimated doomed mutineers being placed on the leads of the church to see."

"Thursday, 17th May. This day in *Burford* church-yard, Cornet *Thompson* was brought to the place of execution and expressed himself to this purpose: That it was *just* what did befall him, that God did not own the ways he went, that he had offended the *General*, he desired the prayers of the people, and told the soldiers who were appointed to shoot him that when he held up his hands they should do their duty. And accordingly he was immediately after the sign given shot to death. Next after him was a Corporal brought to the same place of execution, where looking upon his fellow-mutineers he set his back against the wall and bade them who were appointed 'shoot,' and died desperately. The third being also a Corporal was brought to the same place and without the least acknowledgement of error or show of fear he pulled off his doublet, standing a pretty distance from the wall, he bade the soldiers do their duty looking them in the face till they gave fire, not showing the least kind of terror, or fearfulness of spirit. Cornet *Dean*, who now came forward as the next to be shot, expressed penitence, got pardon of the *General*, and there was no more shooting. *Lieut-General Cromwell* went into the church, called down the decimated of the mutineers, rebuked,

admonished, said the *General* in his mercy had forgiven them. 'Go, repent, rebel no more, lest a worse thing befall you.' They wept, they retired to *Devizes* for a time, were restored to their Regiments, and marched cheerfully for Ireland."

The following is extracted from the Register Book in Burford church :—

BURIALS.

"1649. Three soldiers shot to death in Burford churchyard, buried May 17."

This town *was* of note by giving the title of *Earl* to *Charles Beauclair*, who was created Baron of *Hedington* and Earl of *Burford*, 27th Dec. 1676; and afterwards created Duke of *St. Albans*, whose eldest son is by courtesy *Earl* of *Burford*.

PRIVILEGE OF HUNTING.

The inhabitants of this town *formerly* claimed the privilege of hunting one day in every year in the forest of *Wyche*, but during a pestilence in the reign of *Elizabeth*, A.D. 1593, the right was commuted for a largess of venison, from a dread of the consequences that might result to the public health from the concourse of persons that was wont to assemble. A gift of a pair of Bucks without the hunting of them was substituted, and was for many years perpetuated. "On the afternoon of every Whitsunday," writes Mr. Brewer, "the Churchwardens accompanied by many of the inhabitants go in a kind of procession to Cap's Lodge plain within the

borders of the forest where they choose a *Lord* and a *Lady* who are generally a boy and a girl of *Burford*. These titular personages formally demanded of one or more of the keepers of the forest (who always attend for the purpose) a brace of best bucks and a fawn without fee or reward with their horns and hoofs for the use of the town of Burford to be delivered on due notice previously given for that purpose.

About the first week in August the Bucks were sent for, and a venison feast is provided by the Churchwardens, which is held in the Town-hall, and is usually attended by some hundreds of persons.

The expenses of this gala are defrayed by the company, and many of the neighbouring gentry usually graced the hall with their presence."

The custom of choosing the Lord and Lady was abandoned about the year 1827 in consequence of the gross improprieties it led to on such a solemn feast of the church as Whitsunday, but the Bucks were claimed and regularly sent till about the year 1854.

In 1857, when the disafforestation of the forest was nearly completed, a grant of £150 was made to the Town in lieu of the Bucks. This sum was expended towards defraying a debt incurred by the Corporation.

The following is a copy of a letter in the possession of Mr. *John Banbury*, late Parish Clerk :—

"From y^e Lords of y^e Counsell in y^e Raigne of Queen ELIZABETH concerning our Hunting."

"After our harty commendcons. Whereas it is her Mat^{ys} expresse commandment y^t all assemblys w^{ch} are



JOHN BANBURY,

LATE PARISH CLERK.

Sketched from Nature.

not of necessitie and for y^e benefit of y^e comonwealth, be forborne in this dangerous time of infecon of y^e Plague w^{ch} spreadeth y^t selfe in many places, whereby yf great care be not had to keepe the people of this Realme from unnecessary assemblis y^t is thought y^t great mortalitie will ensue. And whereas you of y^e Towne of Burford by an ancient custom have hunting within her Ma^{ty}s Forest of Wichwood, in y^e countie of Oxon, on Whitsunday, by reason whereof many people of divers Townes whereof some are infected will be drawn together to y^e hassard of many her Ma^{ty}s subjects. These are therefore in her Ma^{ty}s name to require y^w to forbear your hunting there for this year, and order shall be given to y^e Keepers of y^e s^d Forest, to deliver unto y^w two Bucks, to be spent amongst y^w at your owne disposicon, besides this your forbearing for this time shall not be any prejudice to your s^d ancient custome hereafter. And thus not doubting of your accomplishment hereof being her Ma^{ty}s pleasure and required only for your saftie wee comitt y^w to God from Nonsuche y^e xxth of May 1593.

Your loving friends,

H. DERBY.

HENRY HOWARD.

J. PICKERING.

J. FORTESCUE.

R. CECYLL.

J. WALLEY.

To our loving friends the Bayliffs and other the companie and Inhabitants of the Towne of Burford."

Origin of the custom of *Vert* and *Venison*.

Vert, or green hue, in Forest-law, anything that grows and bears a green leaf within the forest, that may cover a deer.

ROYAL VISITS.

From the *Burgesses'* Account-book the following :—

“The yeare of our Lorde God A 1574. The Shew daye beinge the 3rd daye of Auguste the Queenes Maiestye came from *Langley** throughe the Towne of *Burforde* where shee was Reseved at the Bridge by the Baylyffes then beinge Rycharde Reynoldes and Rycharde Chadwell and Symon Wysdom alderman wth all the Burgess of the same Towne p^rsentinge her Grace wth a purse of gowlde and xx^{fi} anngells in the same purse.”

From the *Churchwardens'* Account-books the following :—

“1645. Payed for Ringinge when the Kinge came first to Burford. 5s.”

“1681. Pd. the Ringers on the 17th March the time the King came to Burford. £1.”

“1687. Pd. the Ringers when the King came through the Town. £1 „ 0 „ 0.”

Macaulay, in his History of England, writes thus :—
“A.D. 1695. The next morning the king, accompanied by a multitude of Warwickshire gentlemen on horseback, proceeded towards the borders of Gloucestershire. He deviated from his route to dine with Shrewsbury at a secluded mansion in the Wolds, and in the evening went on to *Burford*.† The whole population of Burford met

* *Langley* is about a mile from *Burford*, and was formerly much frequented by the Kings and Queens of England.

† The king remained at the *Priory* here this night, Nov. 5.

him, and entreated him to accept a small token of their love. Burford was then renowned for its saddles. One inhabitant of the town, in particular, was said by the English to be the best saddler in Europe. Two of his master-pieces were respectfully offered to William, who received them with much grace, and ordered them to be specially reserved for his own use."

Vol. IV. p. 612. 1st Edition. 1855.

Vol VII. p. 242. 2nd Edition. 1858.

Here was *once* a thriving trade, but at the present day it is a quiet and insignificant place, becoming yearly of less importance. Before Railroads intersected the county the traffic through the town was very considerable, and *numerous* coaches passed and repassed through it daily; the manufacture of coarse woollen-cloths was very great; and in the early part of the last century great quantities of malt* were made here and conveyed to London by the river *Thames*^a from *Radcot-Bridge*,^b near *Faringdon*, Berks. The fact of a Railroad not touching the town (the nearest Station is at Shipton-under-Wychwood, 5 miles distant), and only two coaches running daily (Sundays excepted) to and from Oxford and Cheltenham, necessarily deprive it of its trade.

The sign of this decline in its importance is visible everywhere; and a writer upon Oxfordshire has truthfully observed, "Burford has diminished in wealth and importance from the decay of the coarse woollen manufacture, and the malting business, which once flourished

* Malt mills of stone first made here by Valentine Strange.

^a See Note A. ^b See Note B.

there, and from the diminished traffic along the line of road which passes through the town.”

Its woollen-factories, and its paper and fulling-mills on the Windrush, are no more ; and the manufacture of Harness which once flourished here has shared in the general decay.

In consequence of want of trade the Poor-rates have been very high ;—in 1818 and 1819 there were 19 rates at 1s. in the pound each year ; in 1820, 1821, 1822, and 1823 there were 20 rates at 1s. in the pound each year. They have not been anything like so high of late years.

Here is a weekly market on Saturday, when much business is done at the corn-market ; and three annual fairs, viz. :—the last Saturday in April, for cattle and sheep ; July 5, for horses, sheep, and cows ; and Sept. 25, for sheep, cows, and toys : this fair was *originally* for cheese and toys.

The town consists of three streets, viz. :—*High Street*, intersected by *Sheep Street* and *Witney Street*, which form a cross ; and four lanes, viz. :—*Mullender*, now called *Swan* ; *Priory Church*, and *Lawrence*.

The *Causeways* are bad, uncovered drains from the houses flowing over them, and consequently very dirty ; the houses are ancient for the most part, built in the reign of *Elizabeth* ; and the *High Street* is profusely studded with archways of various architecture leading into houses, courts, and alleys.

The immense number of public-houses,* 16, (19 last

* See Gentleman's Magazine for February, 1803, Vol. 73, Page 198, for an account of *Arthur Barry Shears* an Irish gentleman

year) at once strikes the eye of the stranger who visits this town, but upon enquiry he finds that the majority of the landlords are engaged in trade.

At the corner of *Sheep Street*, facing the *High Street*, still stands the old *Tolsey*^c with its lock-up-cells, and the stocks adjoining, now disused.

Opposite this is a very old and picturesque house, with its gable-ends handsomely ornamented with wood work.

In *Witney Street* is a fine old chapel, the middle of which has been pulled down and a public-house inserted instead ; one end is occupied by a labourer, the other is not used ; and the fine spiral wood chimney is worthy of notice.

Leading from this street is *Guildenford*, a road to the church and lower end of the town. At the bottom of *Guildenford* is the river *Windrush* with its *ford*, hence the author considers this name was derived from the custom of passengers paying toll ; or it might have been in connection with the ancient *Guild*, *Gildam* to pay, because each member of the society was to pay something towards the charge and support of the company. The *Guild*,^d or company, of our ancestors answered to our modern *Corporations*—the *Guild* of Burford is now no more, as has been observed before.

At the end of *Priory-lane* is the Rectory, a fine old stone mansion, now occupied by W. Waller, Esq. ; and closeby is the *Priory*, to be mentioned hereafter.

travelling with his wife and lodging at the Bull Inn on retiring to rest about 10 o'clock blew his brains out with a pistol.

^c See Note C. ^d See Note D.

At the corner of this lane, facing the High Street, is a large old stone house with a beautiful Oriel window, *formerly* known as the Bear Inn, but now much dilapidated and let out in tenements. Lower down the High Street and on the same side is situated the *Vicarage*, on which is the date 1672, a large and commodious house.

Adjoining this is a very ancient and large building called *Cob-Hall*,* but what it has *originally* been cannot at this distance of time be discovered. The earliest Deed the author has been able, after very diligent search, to find is, George Symons' will dated 19 Jan. 1590, in which he gives "my nowe dwellinge house in Burford called Cob-hall to the poore of the Parish," &c., &c. By six subsequent Leases (the first of which is dated 1 May 1650) the author has ascertained that this house was converted into an Inn called *The Swan*; the last Lease bears date 10 Dec. 1717, when it was again let for the term of 21 years. It has, however, not been an Inn within the memory of man, and is now occupied by three poor families, and the Boys' National School.

Upon an old house at the foot of the Bridge, in the occupation of Edward Ansell, Currier, is the following inscription:—

SYMON WYSDOM† ALDERMAN
THE FYRST FOUNDER OF THE SCHOLE

* *Cob* in old Dictionaries has several meanings attached to it; among others that of a *Swan*, hence the author conceives that when it became an *Inn* it was called "the Swan."

† In or about the year 1530, "*Simon Wisdom*, of *Burford* was charged in judgment for having three books in English, one was the

IN BURFORD GAVE THES TENEMENTS
 WYTHE OTHER TO THE SAME SCHOLE
 IN AN. 1577. AND NEWLY REEDYFYED
 AND BUYLDED THE SAME IN AN. 1576.
 ALL LAWDE AND PRAYSE BE GEVEN
 TO GOD THER FORE. AMEN.

On a stone in the wall of the Grammar-School in Church-lane is the following inscription :—

ALL LAUDE AND PRAISE BE TO GOD
 A° R REGIÆ DE ELIZABETH XXI
 SYMON WYSDOM ALDER-
 MAN OF BURFORD REEDYFIED
 AND BUYLDED THIS HOUSE
 A° Doⁱ 1579.

W

The stone on which the above inscription is was removed from the Wysdom Almshouse in this Lane by the Rev. F. Knollys, a former Vicar, and after his death it being found in the Vicarage-house was inserted in the School-house wall.

On the Almshouses in Church-Green is this inscription :

THESE ALMSHOUSES
 WERE FOUNDED BY
 RICHARD EARL OF WARWICK
 IN THE YEAR 1457.
 AND WERE REBUILT
 IN THE YEAR
 1828.

Gospels in English, another was the Psalter, the third was the sum of the holy Scripture in English.”

Foxe's Acts and Monuments.
 Seymour's Edition, p. 503.

There are two or three very good and substantial private residences in the town, evidently built within the last 150 years.

THE ASSIZES AND SESSIONS.

From the Churchwardens' Account-book it is proved that *Assizes* were held here, the following is a copy of an entry therein:—

“1637. To the Ringers the 14th of July when the Judges did keepe the *Assizes* here.” It is also recorded therein, some years later, that *Sessions* were held here at the Epiphany, Easter, Trinity, and Michaelmas Terms, yearly.

Petty Sessions are held at the Savings' Bank (which was established in the year 1826) by the Magistrates of the Western division of the Hundred of *Bampton* the last Saturday of every month, and that day fortnight previous.

The *Wesleyan Chapel*, having a very handsome stone front, is situate in the *High Street*, and has a Burial-ground attached. This Chapel was *formerly* a gentleman's mansion, from whom it was purchased by the *Wesleyans* in the year 1849. There is a *Baptist Chapel* in *Witney Street*, with a Burial-ground; and there is a sect called *Plymouth Brethren*.

The following is an extract from the Population Tables—*Burford Township*:—

	1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.	1841.	1851.	1861.
Total ..	1516.	1342.	1409.	1620.	1644.	1593.	1434.
Males. .	748.	634.	691.	781.	812.	771.	703.

A PROVERB.

“To take a Burford-bait” was a proverbial expression, which signified not to stay the stomach, but to overcharge it by an intemperate meal.

N A T U R A L H I S T O R Y .

THE BRIDGE.

The following inscription was formerly in the West window of St. Katherine’s Aisle, St. Helen’s Church, Abingdon, Bucks ; but it was destroyed during the Civil Wars, when *Waller’s* horse used the Aisle for stabling :

“ Henricus quintus quarto fundaverat anno,*
 Rex pontem Burford super undas atque Culhamford.
 ejus Abingdoniæ manet annis
doniæ

Pontem sit fundans, in cælo Rex sit habundans,
 M. Domini que quater, C. Sextus, tumque de

On the day of St. Albone, one Howchum layd the first stone,
 And never fayled to the end, to heaven mot his soul wend.

Pray for the soule of Geffrey Barber,
 For he was the bridge’s greatest helper,
 Pray for the soule of Thomas Tickhill, Mercer,
 For he was to the bridge a good helper,
 Pray for the soule of Wry. Wesley,
 For his good”

So though Henry V. had the honour of building *Bur-*

* These lines are alluded to by Camden, and the two first printed in a note by Gough, I. 147.

ford and *Culhamford* bridges, the former was begun by Sir John, of St. Helen's, and Geffrey Barber was a large contributor, and indeed principal founder to both and to the causeway between them, as appears at large by a tablet still hanging in the Hall of Christ's Hospital, Abingdon, the inscription on which is printed at length in a long note of Hearne, to Leland, VII. p. 79, 80.

Another account from *Ex tabula pensili* :

"Anno 4. Henrici V. *pontes de Bordforde et Culhamforde prope Abbandune incepti sunt autore rege anno Dom. 1416.*"

Though king *Henry* the 5th is here said to be the Founder not only of *Burford*, but of *Culhamford* bridge, yet this is to be understood only by way of compliment, and it is grounded only upon the liberty given by him for building the bridges, and upon some other small privileges that he allowed at this time. For it is certain that *John*, of St. *Helen's*, was the first beginner of *Burford* bridge, to the maintenance of which and of the Hospital of St. *Helen's* that he had founded, he left an estate in land of 50 pounds a year.

Leland's Itin. Vol. VII. p. 71.

The *Author* informs the *Reader* that there still exists, in the Hall of Christ's Hospital, Abingdon, the *original table* describing the circumstances connected with the building of the bridges.

The Latin portion of it is as follows :—

" Henrici quinti regis quarto revoluto
Anno, rex idem pontem fundavit utrumque,
Supra locum binum Borford dictumq. Culhamford.

Tuter eos namque via regia tendit alta.
 Annis adjunctis dat inter gradientibus amplum :
 Principium ejus Abendonæ situatur.
 Annis tunc donum M. quater C. numeratis.
 Et seato deno cum fecit opus pietatis.
 Vos qui transitis hujus memores bene sitis.
 Et vestris peccibus fundator sit relevatus.”

Then follows a black-letter metrical narrative, which is too long to copy. It mentions that the first stone was laid on St. Alban's day, by John Huchum, that Sir Peris Besillis, Knight, gave the stones for the building, that Jeffray Barbour paid the workmen, and many other details of the work. And it ends with this curious riddle:^e

“ Take the ffirst letter of youre foure-
 fader with A, the worker of wex, and
 I, and N, the coloure of an asse ; set
 them togeder, and tell me if you can,
 what is it than. Richard Fannande
 Iremonger hath made this tabul. And
 set it here in the yere of King Henry
 the Sexte. XXXVI^{te} .”

The following account is from the Gentleman's Magazine for Oct. 1797. Vol. 67. Part 2. Page 880.

“ Burford, Sept. 13, 1797. Yesterday this town and its neighbourhood was visited by one of the most violent storms ever remembered.

It came on about 9 P.M. the wind being in a south-westerly direction, and blowing very roughly. At ten the rain descended in torrents, mixed with hail-stones of an uncommonly-large size, and accompanied with very

^e Those who cannot guess this riddle will find the answer to it under Note E.

tremendous thunder and lightning. In about two hours the thunder and lightning went off, the rain still continuing to pour down in a degree not remembered in this place by the oldest inhabitant. We have not heard of any damage from the lightning ; but, in consequence of the heavy fall of rain, the *Windrush*, a small river near this place, was so much swelled in course of the night, as to carry away the bridge between this town and Fullbrook."

OF STONES.

There are stones called *Bronticæ* and *Ombriæ* found in great abundance at *Tangle*, *Fullbrook*, and about *Burford*, but not in beds together like some other formed stones. Though its innermost texture seem to be nothing more than a coarse Bubble-stone, yet it is cased over with a fine *laminated substance* (the plates lying obliquely) much like *Lapis Judaicus*. In form they are flat, depressed upon the basis ; in colour generally yellow, their *rays* made of a double rank of *transverse* lines, with void spaces between them, visible enough on the top of the stone, but not so distinguishable on the bottom. The whole body of the stone, as well as the spaces included within the *rays*, being elsewhere filled with *annulets*, much more curiously wrought by *nature* than they could be by the Engraver's tools.

These stones were thought (by the vulgar at least) to be generated in the *clouds* and discharged thence in the times of *thunder* and *violent showers* ; for which very reason the ancient *Naturalists* coined them suitable names, and called such as they were pleased to think fell

in the *thunder, Brontice* ; and those that fell in *showers, Ombrice*. Plot, 91, par. 30, 31.

KITT'S QUARRIES.

About half a mile south-west from *Burford* are St. *Christopher's* or *Kitt's Quarries*, which produced fine stone for building St. *Paul's*, London.

This stone was chiefly used for *Columns, Capitals, Bases, Window-lights, Door-cases, Cornicing, Mouldings, &c.* ; it being whiter and harder, and carries a much finer *arris*, than that at *Heddington Quarry* ; but yet is not so hard as that at *Taynton*, nor will it like that endure the fire, of which they make *Malt-kilns*, and *Hearths* for *Ovens*. Plot. 76. par. 26.

These *Quarries* have not been worked for many years, and the cavities (which are numerous) being covered with moss and grass present a remarkably-pretty appearance, and are much frequented by Picnic-parties. Here stands an old-fashioned stone house with the following inscription above one of the windows :—

Christopher Kempster built
this in 1698.

This small estate still belongs to the *Kempster* family ; an ancestor of which was employed in building St. *Paul's*, and having saved money purchased this property, and lived the remainder of his life here.

SAINFOIN.

Onobrychis spicata flore purpureo, semine echinato, commonly called *Sainct-foin*, or *everlasting grass*, but according to the learned Dr. Morison the true *Lucern*, is

sown about here, and is recommended as an excellent fodder for Beasts which are made fat with it in the spring-time in eight or ten days.

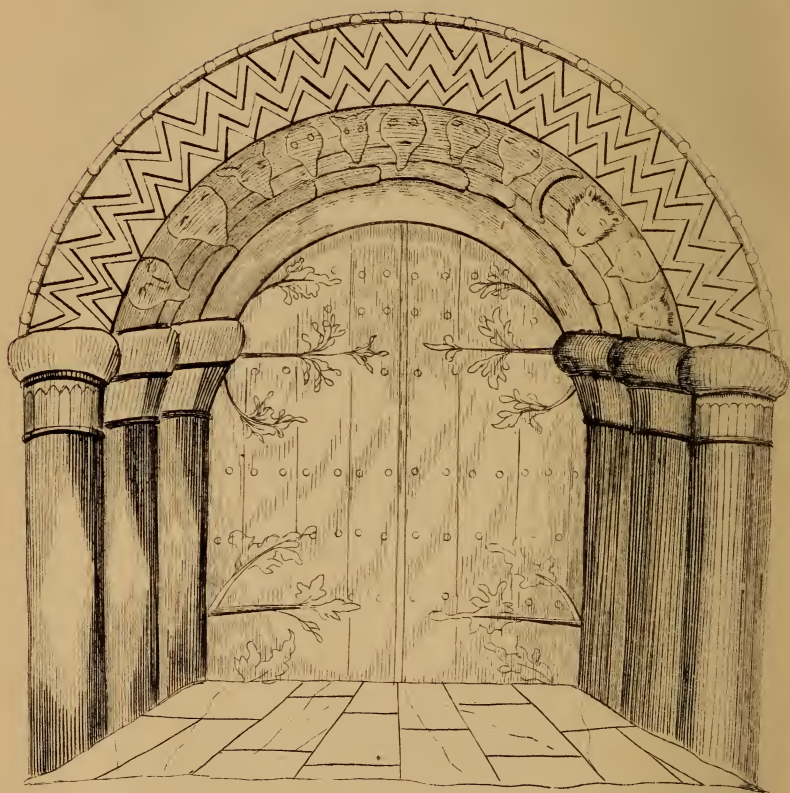
This artificial grass grows to a large extent in this neighbourhood, and some years ago one-seventh of the arable-land was under Sainfoin.

A CUTTING-ROLLER.

When Mr. Young surveyed this county, and noticing the implements of Husbandry observed that, at *Burford* “a *cutting-roller* has been invented, composed of twelve wheels, two and a half inches thick, and between them a space of two and a half inches. They are three feet diameter. The inventor loads them so as to be sufficient work for six oxen, and passes them over wheat after it is sown, or after it is up; and, if dry, cross and cross. In spring he has used it also upon wheat; it leaves the surface rough in diamonds, which he finds useful.”

Probably this gave the idea of Crosskill's *Clod-crusher*.





WEST DOOR,
BURFORD CHURCH, OXON.

CHAPTER II.

THE CHURCH.

IN a country-town the church is generally the first attraction for a stranger. Even to those who are not antiquarians, the examination of such edifices is always pleasant and gratifying, especially when the mind is impressed with the fact that they were raised by the labours of our forefathers.

The church of *Burford*, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a Vicarage in the patronage of the Lord Bishop of Oxford. The edifice is cruciform, and has a Norman tower in the centre surmounted by a fine and tall Spire. It is a noble structure, consisting of a long and lofty Nave, one Aisle on the North side, and two on the South the exterior of which was evidently added at a later period, a Parvise, a Chapel adjoining now called Burgesses' Aisle, a Tower, two Transepts each divided into two Chapels, a Chancel, and Vestry.

The Author considers it to be by far the largest and handsomest building in its own Neighbourhood, though evidently erected at different periods.

The style of architecture for the most part is Perpendicular. The West-doorway and lower part of the Tower

are evidently the only parts of the original church which was Norman.

It was new-pewed in the year 1827, when a Gallery was erected in the North Aisle.

"The Earl of Essex and his rebels lay in the Church the 6th of June, 1644, and used it with the greatest incivility. Amongst the rest, they took down the pennons and flags hanging over this Baron's* monument, and *wore them for Scarfs.*"

Topogr. vol. I. p. 416.

About 150 years ago a Cut was made from the Bridge, deviating from the river and flowing round the North side and East end of the Churchyard, for the purpose of working a Mill at the bottom of Witney Street, in consequence of which the Church and Churchyard in very high floods were formerly in part under water. This happened in the years 1795 and 1809. Floodgates were afterwards adopted, and the like inconvenience prevented.

WEST FRONT.

The doorway is *Norman*, the outer moulding of which is adorned with *Norman* zigzag or Dogtooth, and the inner moulding is decorated with human and animal heads.

The pillars, two on each side, are twisted *Norman*. This archway was brought here when the present Nave was built, as is *evident* from the internal construction. The window above is a good Perpendicular of five lights, and was most likely *originally* full of exceedingly rich

* Baron Tanfield.

stained glass, but *now* only a small portion of it remains. The original designs, which doubtless were very beautiful, have been much pieced with fragments of the other windows, and the only traceable figures are St. George and the Dragon.

THE SOUTH PORCH.

This Porch is of beautiful *Gothic* architecture, the Spandrils of the Arch contain quatrefoils ; there are three richly ornamented Niches in the Parvise above it, each filled with a figure which were defaced in Cromwell's time ; and above are Pinnacles and rich canopies. The inside of this Porch is singularly elegant, consisting of arched sides, with six pilasters, from whence spring the ribs of the roof of rich framework, meeting together, and filled in the vacant spaces with quatrefoils.

This fine groined roof is similar to that in the Cloisters of Gloucester Cathedral ; and on entering the Church from this Porch the Visitor should notice the two *Gothic* arches (one on each side), and the elbow-capitals of the columns, very good and uncommon.

Above this Porch are two Stories, a room in each, *formerly* occupied by the Priest, *now* called the Muni-ment-rooms in which the Deeds belonging to the Church and Corporation are kept. Access to these rooms is obtained by a turret-staircase from Burgesses' Aisle, and in the first of which is a very handsome old oak chest and six oak chairs. These rooms are lighted by two windows in each.

THE TOWER AND STEEPLE.

The present Steeple and upper part of the Tower were evidently built upon the original Norman tower at a later period, and this fact is established by the windows running parallel with the Nave being of rich Norman.

The following is a copy of an entry in the Churchwardens' book beginning with the year 1624:—

“1663. Paid William Wethin of Slymbridge, in the county of Glous Tyler for poyntinge the Steeple and sett up a new Pinnacle on the turret. £10 ,, 10 ,, 0.”

The staircase to the tower is in the south-west angle, and entering *Leggare's* Chapel from this point the Visitor will notice two Norman pillars with capitals.

This tower is a massive and venerable structure, with fine Norman arches to support the steeple which is exquisitely built and has not any obstruction to the apex. It contains six bells. The old custom of tolling the curfew-bell at eight o'clock every night from the first Monday after old Michaelmas-day till Lady-day, *yearly*, is kept up here. The curfew-bell was so called because it was rung by a law of William the Conqueror, that all persons should then cover their lights and fires, and go to bed. The ascribed imposition of the curfew custom, as a specimen of the Conqueror's rigid sway, merits but little credence.

Thomson has thus described this supposed act of tyranny:—

“The shiv'ring wretches, at the curfew sound,
Dejected sunk into their sordid beds,
And, through the mournful gleam of better times,
Mus'd sad, or dreamt of better.”

“ Oft, on a flat of rising ground
I hear the far-off *curfew* sound.”

MILTON.

And Gray's Elegiac mention of the *curfew* is as familiar as “household words”:

“The curfew tolls the knell of parting day.”

The old practice of ringing the Communion-bell after sunset on the eve of the Celebration of the Holy Communion is also observed here.

THE NORTH SIDE.

The North side of the Church is much more regular in design than the South, being all perpendicular and built at the same time.

The Visitor entering the church at the Western door finds himself in

THE NAVE,

which is spacious and terminated at the East end by a low tower arch; above which is the Organ, erected in the year 1827.

It is 70 feet long, by 23 feet wide.

The Nave itself is perpendicular.

There are five arches on each side, and the six pillars which support them are each a cluster of four columns of the same design; the capitals are the same, and above them are heads of grotesque device.

Above the third pillar (counting from the east end) is a Fresco of Saint Christopher,^f now concealed by white-wash. The space above the arches is unusually great and contains five perpendicular Clerestory windows.

^f See Note F.

The roof is a wooden one, but was ceiled many years ago ; the corbels on which it rests are ornamented with heads ; and the pendant-posts are very rich and worth uncovering.

Close to the western door is

THE FONT,

which is perpendicular and hexagonal ; it has a great deal of sculpture on it, a representation of the Crucifixion, the Evangelists, &c., &c.

The Author considers it to belong to the end of the fourteenth century ; the base and bason of it are circular, which was very uncommon at that period.

On the leaden bason is inscribed :

Anthonye Sedley, Prisner 1649.

During the Civil Wars of the 17th century detachments of the contending armies were frequently at Burford.

In the Parish-register are notices of the burial of several soldiers who were slain then.

In the year 1758, 186 persons died in Burford of small-pox, and were buried in the churchyard. See Register of Burials of that date with "S P" opposite the names of those who so died.

THE NORTH AISLE.

This Aisle is 70 feet long, by 13 feet 3 inches wide. It is lighted by a perpendicular three-light window at the west end ; and by five perpendicular three-light windows in the north wall, the third of which counting from the east-end is concealed by a very ugly mural stone

monument of strange architecture, erected to the memory of Edmund Harman,^g Esq.

THE SOUTH AISLE.

This Aisle *was* evidently the same as the North one, and projecting from which southwards is the Parvise or South Porch before described, and St. Thomas's Chapel now called Burgesses' Aisle.

The roofs of these Aisles are of the same character as that of the Nave, and were ceiled at the same time.

This Aisle is 70 feet long by 10 feet 3 inches wide.

An Aisle called *Sylvester's* was added to it and the Parvise most probably in the sixteenth century. It contains a number of peculiar mural monuments to a family of that name, after whom it was probably nominated.

It is 60 feet 8 inches long, by 23 feet 7 inches wide, and is lighted by four perpendicular four-light windows, with a large perpendicular window at the west end comprising seven lights.

The entrance doorway at the west end is a low Tudor arch, with a massive original door studded with nails.

In the south-west angle of this Aisle is a turret-tower leading to the *leads*, upon which the author is of opinion the decimated doomed Mutineers were placed in Cromwell's time, an account of which mutiny is given in the first chapter of this work.

The western portion of this Aisle, 26 feet 9 inches long and 23 feet 7 inches wide, is not Pewed. In it is a stone altar-tomb with a Coat of Arms upon it but not

g See Note G.

any inscription. There is also here a large stone coffin,* betokening the entombment of some *personage*, which was discovered in 1814 about a mile from Burford when a new road was being made from Upton to Little Barrington.

ST. THOMAS'S CHAPEL,

now called *Burgesses' Aisle*, is on the east side of the Parvise, and was till lately occupied by the Corporation. It has undergone various mutilations. In the east end *was* a Gothic window, the upper part of which is blocked up, and in the lower part there is an Elizabethan window of six lights but in which there is not any glass. It is lighted by one perpendicular window of four lights, in which are fragments of painted glass of which it was *originally* undoubtedly full. Underneath this window is a *Sedilia*, adjoining which is a large *Piscina* and above this a handsome bracket on which most likely an image stood. Adjoining this Chapel on the east end is the

SOUTH TRANSEPT,

divided into two chapels called *Leggare's* and *Bartholomew's*.

* Stone coffins were used in this country as late as the eleventh and twelfth centuries, the covers of these were simply coped, like the one in this church. From the size and appearance of this coffin, and from the circumstance of its being found near to Battle Edge, it may be presumed it was deposited there after the battle between *Ethelbald* and *Cuthred* before noticed. When found it contained some bones of a human body, and portions of a leathern cuirass studded with metal nails, completely oxidated and matted together : these remains were then forwarded to the British Museum, London, by the Vicar of Burford.

LEGGARE'S CHAPEL,

commonly and erroneously called *Baker's Aisle*, is lighted by two perpendicular windows of three lights. In it is the beautiful grey marble altar-tomb of John Leggare, which is ornamented with kneeling figures on the sides, but from which the *brasses* and *shields* have been removed. Below the window in the east wall is a small *Piscina*. The roof is a good wooden one. In a groove of the stonework which forms the lancet-shaped arch of the south window, on the outside, is the following inscription* :

“ORASE PRO ANIMABUS ET MATRIS JOHANNIS
LEGGARE DE BORFORD PER QUEM ISTA
FENESTRA DECORETUR.”

This John Leggare, who beautified the window with painted glass (not a fragment of which remains), lies buried near his window under the above-mentioned altar-tomb. Adjoining this is

BARTHOLOMEW'S CHAPEL,

so called because it contains a number of memorials to a family of that name. It is entered from the last mentioned chapel through a debased archway. It is lighted by three perpendicular three-light windows in the south wall, and one perpendicular of five lights in the east wall. It has a good wooden roof. Two debased arches,

* The first word of this inscription ought to be *Orate*—the error arose from the negligence of the stone-cutter. Every letter of it is in old English.

enclosed with wooden screens, separate it from the Chancel. These two Chapels are thus mentioned in an Harleian Manuscript in the British Museum, London ;

“Burford, June 9th, 1660.

In the Chapel on the south side, these arms in the windows.

France and England quartered.

Or. a Chevron G.

Or. a Cross G.

In another Chapel on the same side, a grey marble monument. The arms upon it not discernable.”

M.S. Brit. Bibl Harl. 4170. P. 36, &c.

THE CHANCEL.

The interior of this Church is seen to the best effect from the great Western door, yet this view is greatly broken from the lowness of the Norman arches of the Tower which separate the body of the church from the chancel.

The east window, a poor specimen, is a large perpendicular one of five lights, with very beautiful rich stained glass in the upper part of it. On each side of this window there *was* an image with a canopy above, most probably destroyed in the time of the Commonwealth ; the Niches alone remain. The North window is Early English, blocked up when the Vestry was added to the chancel. The South window is a three-light perpendicular one. The roof was ceiled many years ago, at the same time the Nave was.

This chancel is 45 feet 8 inches long, and 20 feet 9 inches wide.

THE VESTRY.

The Vestry on the North side of the chancel is entered by a *Tudor* doorway, with a quatrefoil in each Spandril. It has a debased window of three-lights, and beneath it a stone altar.

In England the altars were generally taken down in or about the year 1550. They were set up again in the beginning of the reign of Queen Mary, and again removed in the second year of Queen Elizabeth. The ancient stone altars were so carefully destroyed, either at this period or in the subsequent devastations of the Puritans, that it has been frequently said there is not one to be found in England; but a few of them, and some of the Chantry-altars, in the aisles and chapels of churches have escaped.

The ceiling is debased, but handsome. Here is a *Piscina* with four holes;—very uncommon.

Adjoining this *Vestry* is

TANFIELD'S CHAPEL,*

entered through a wooden-screen, which divides it from the chancel, beneath a debased arch similar to and opposite the first arch on the south side. It is lighted by two perpendicular three-light windows in the north wall,

* Lady Tanfield, by Will dated June, 1739, devised a house, garden, &c., on the North side of Sheep Street, the profits thereof yearly to be disposed of for "the repairing maintaining and cleansing the tomb of her husband and of the Aisle of Burford church wherein it stood." This property was purchased by J. S. Price, Esq., the Tenant, July 1860.

and one perpendicular window of four lights in the east wall.

In this chapel is a most stately monument,^h which the author describes in the Appendix.

PYNNOCK'S CHAPEL.

This Chapel, adjoining the above one, is on the north side of the Tower, from which it is entered through a debased arch. It is lighted by one perpendicular three-light window in the north wall. The roof is a good wooden one. This Chapel is thus noticed in the Churchwardens' book :—

“1648 Pd for mendinge a spoute agst Pynnocks Chappell. 8s.”

A debased arch at the west end leads into

THE PRIORY PEW,

in which is a debased chapel, with its altar and stoop ; and a similar arch opposite to it leads into *Tanfield's* chapel. This pew belongs to the *Priory* estate.

Such, then, is the Author's accurate description of the present appearance and architectural character of this large and handsome edifice. Our ancient churches have received a greater share of the munificence, talents, and labours of our forefathers than most other buildings. In them we find such testimonies of piety, such traces of simple trustfulness, such hopefulness :—

“ The place is purified with hope,
The hope that is of prayer ;
And human love, and heavenward thought,
And pious faith are there.”

^h See Note H.

THE CHURCHYARD.

The churchyard, where so many of

“The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep,”

is a large piece of ground, the south side of which is densely crowded with Gravestones, amongst which are some ugly and peculiar old mural Altar-tombs. The epitaphs on the *old* Tomb-stones are illegible except the two following ones.

On a brass fixed to the head of an Altar-tomb, opposite the south porch, is this inscription :—

“I know that my Redeemer liveth.”

“Here lyeth the body of John Hunt of Burford

Mercer who deceased 15 Mar. in the year

of our Lord God, 1603. Wm. Hunt and Richard

Hunt sons to the said John Hunt made

this 1609.”

On a brass fixed to the head of another Altar-tomb, opposite the turret at the south-west angle of Sylvester's Aisle, is this inscription :—

“Elizabeth White willingly and peaceably exchanged

her vile enjoyment here for those rich and

unspeakable, Feb. XIII, MDCLI. Her twin daughter

Margaret, the XI day of June before, and her Sister,

Mary Webb, the last of May following. One of

the many wholesom words that she left in

writing was this out of St. Paul. ‘Now this I say

brethren that time is short. It remains that even they that have wives bee as not having, and they that weep as not weeping, and they that rejoice as not rejoicing. In the fashion,' &c., &c."

The *modern* epitaphs are such as are common to all rural churchyards.



CHAPTER III.

THE MANOR.

AT the time of the *Norman Survey* the king had at Burford a "mansio," i.e., a single house, or a hamlet, which Earl *Alberic* held at the rent of five shillings.

The following is a translation of an account of Burford in *Domesday-book*ⁱ:—

"To the lands which Earl Aubery held, belongs one church, and three mansions ; two of these, paying twenty-eight pence, lie to the church of St. Mary ; and the third, paying five shillings, lies to *Bureford*."

The following is a translation of another account in the same *Record*:—

"Land of the Bishop of Baieux."*

"Earl Aubery holds *Bureford* of the land of the Bishop. There are eight hides there. Land to twenty ploughs. Now in the demesne four ploughs and three bondmen and twenty-two villanes and eight bordars have twelve ploughs. There are two mills of twenty-five shillings. And twenty-five acres of meadow. Pasture one mile in length and in breadth. It was worth sixteen pounds, now thirteen pounds." For explanation of terms see Note K.

ⁱ See Note I.

* Odo, Bishop of Bayeux.

Dugdale supposes this Earl *Aubery* to be the ancestor of the *Veres*, Earls of Oxford. P. 188.

Thus at this *early* period Burford was held by Earl Aubery, but *after* the *Conquest* this town belonged to *Robert*, Earl of Gloucester, natural son of Henry I., who dying in A.D. 1147, this manor went to his eldest son and heir

William, Earl of Gloucester.

This Earl died in A.D. 1173, leaving only three daughters, viz. :

Mabell, married to the Earl of *Chereux*, in Normandy ;

Amice, married to *Richard de Clare*, Earl of Hertford ; and

Isabell, married to *John*, son of King Henry II.

Mabell and *Isabell* dying without issue the inheritance of this great Honour totally devolved to *Amice* wife of *Richard de Clare* aforesaid, and sole heir to all that Earldom, so that her posterity afterwards enjoyed the title of Earls of Gloucester. This Earl dying in A.D. 1206, was succeeded by his only son and heir

Gilbert de Clare, the *first* Earl of Gloucester and Hertford jointly. He married *Isabel*, 3rd daughter and eventually coheir of *William Mareschal*, the Elder, Earl of Pembroke, and dying in A.D. 1229, was succeeded by his eldest son and heir

Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford, who married twice. His first wife died without issue ; he married secondly *Maude*, daughter of *John de Lacey*,

Earl of Lincoln; and dying 14 July, 1262, was succeeded by his son and heir

Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford, commonly called *the Red*. In 13 Edw. I. this Earl having been divorced from *Alice* his wife (daur: of *Guy*, Earl of Angoulesme), taking consideration of her noble birth, freely granted to her for her support during life, amongst other manors, the manor of Burford.

He married *secondly*, (in 17 Edw. I.) *Joane of Acres*, daur. of King Edward I., by whom he had one son and three daughters; and dying 7 Dec. 1295, was succeeded by his son and heir

Gilbert de Clare, (then five years old) Earl of Gloucester and Hertford. He married *Maude*, daughter of *John de Burgh*, son of *Richard*, Earl of Ulster. He was slain in the battle of *Bannockburn*,* 24 June A.D. 1314, and leaving no issue surviving (for *John* his son died in his lifetime) his three sisters became his heirs; between whom, "after two years' expectance of issue to be borne on the body of *Maude* his wife,"† this great inheritance was shared. This Earl's widow (*Maude*)

* The well-known song—

"Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled,"

is intended to express the address of the gallant Bruce to his army, before the battle of Bannockburn which was gained by the Scots, notwithstanding the inferiority of their numbers. The English had never met with a more terrible defeat than this, for they had made quite sure of victory; and the event of this battle is remembered with pride by the Scots to this very day.

† Let. Itin. Vol. 6. f. 85, and Dugdale p. 217.

had for her dowry and assignation, amongst other manors, the manor of Caversham, with certain lands in Burford, Nether-Orton, and Heyford at the Bridge, together with the Hundred of Chadlington, Oxfordshire.

In 7 Edw. II. (A.D. 1314), Sir *Hugh le Despencer*, Knight, the younger, married *Alianore*, the eldest of the three daughters and heiresses of *Gilbert de Clare* who died in 1295; and doing his homage in 10 Edw. II. had Livery of her purparty of the Lordships and Lands of that Earl.

In 16 Edward II. A.D. 1323, he obtained a Charter for a Fair, yearly, at his manor of Burford, for the space of seven days preceding the *nativity* of *St. John Baptist*; that day, and eight days following. This Fair has been discontinued very many years.

The same year also this Earl procured for himself, amongst several grants of manors, a grant of twenty pounds yearly rent issuing out of the manor of Burford, late John Giffard's, attainted.

This great man (the King's Chamberlain and chief favourite in 14 Edw. II.) becoming very odious to the Queen, Prince, and People; and favouring the King of Scotland, was the occasion of the English being defeated at Bannockburn; (Froissart. lib. 1 and 2. f. 2a.) and that by his traitorous council and extortion, the king had dishonoured his realm by ordering his greatest Lord to be beheaded, neither would his Majesty see the Queen his wife, nor Edward his eldest son, this Earl was according to sentence executed as a traitor on a gallows fifty feet high, on *St. Andrew's Eve*, A.D. 1326.

Upon his execution this distich was then made :—

“ Funis cum lignis, à te miser ensis et ignis,
Hugo securis, equus, abstulit omne decus.”

“ The rope, because he was drawn with it ;
The wood, because he was hanged thereon ;
The sword, because he was beheaded therewith ;
The fire, because his bowels were burnt ;
The axe, because he was quartered therewith ; and
The horse, because he drew him.”

Upon the death of this *Hugh's* widow (*Alianore*) in A.D. 1337, his eldest son and heir

Hugh Despencer, succeeded ; and doing his homage, had Livery of the lands of her inheritance.

He married *Elizabeth*, the widow of *Giles de Bradlesmere*, and daughter of *William de Montacute* Earl of Salisbury.

In 17 Edw. III. he was then styled Lord of Glamorgan.

This Lord died 8 Feb. 23 Edw. III. seized, amongst other manors, of the manor of Caversham, Shipton, Burford, and the Hundred of Chadlington, Oxfordshire ; and left

Edward Despencer, son of his brother *Edward*, his next heir, then twelve years of age, and afterwards made a Knight, and a Baron. This Lord died in 49 Edw. III. (a great Baron and a good Knight, saith *Froissart*) seized, amongst other manors, of the manor of Burford, Shipton, Caversham, and the Hundred of Chadlington, Oxfordshire ; leaving by his wife *Elizabeth*, daughter of *Bartholomew de Burghersh*,

Thomas Despencer, his son and heir, then two years

old ; afterwards called *Thomas* Lord *Despencer* of *Glamorgan* and *Worganok*. In 21 Rich. II. this *Thomas* (amongst others, then advanced to great titles of Honour) was created Earl of Gloucester, in consequence of his descent from *Gilbert de Clare*, sometime Earl of Gloucester.

In 22 Rich. II. this Earl attended the King into Ireland, but the next year following, though he was one of the chief of those Peers who formally acted in the deposition of that unfortunate Prince, King *Richard* the Second, yet was he soon after degraded from the title of Earl of Gloucester, by that Parliament held in the first year of King *Henry* the Fourth (which was the very next ensuing year) as all those others were, who were the prosecutors of that worthy person *Thomas* of *Woodstock*,* Duke of Gloucester, after he had been so barbarously murdered at Calais ; and sentenced to lose all such Castles, Lordships, and Lands, as he had of those whom he accused, upon the day that the Duke of Gloucester was arrested, or afterwards. And, that all his other Castles, Manors, and Lands, which he then, or since, held of the King, should be at the King's mercy : as also, that if ever he should go about to give assistance to the deposed King, to be then prosecuted as a Traitor. Of what he was afterwards guilty, doth not directly appear ; but it seems to have been an adherence with the Earls of Kent, Salisbury, and Huntingdon, who designed the surprisal of King *Henry* the Fourth at Windsor ; for before

* He was the King's Uncle, and was smothered with a feather-bed.

Froissart. f. 294. a. n. 40.

the end of the first year of that King's reign he, by the vote of the Commons being condemned to die, was carried into the market-place, Bristol, and there beheaded by the rabble in 1 Henry IV. A.D. 1399. All this Lord's Castles, Lordships, Lands, &c., within the territories of Glamorgan and Worganok now came to the Crown, but *Constance*, his widow, (daughter of *Edmund* of Langley, Duke of York) obtained a Grant from the King for life, of the manors of Caversham, Burford, and Shipton, Oxfordshire; with several others in other counties; and enjoyed by her until her death in 4 Henry V. A.D. 1417.

By this *Constance* he left issue one son

Richard, who married but died in A.D. 1414 without issue; and two daughters. Of these daughters, *Elizabeth* died in her childhood; but *Isabel* was first married to

Richard Beauchamp, Lord Bergavenny, and afterwards Earl of Worcester. Which *Richard*, doing his fealty in 2 Hen. V. had Livery of all those Lordships and Lands, as upon the death of her brother descended to her; and in 4 Hen. V. upon the death of *Constance*, her mother, had the like Livery of what she held in Dower.

But this *Richard*, Earl of Worcester, departing this life before her, she afterwards, by a special dispensation from the Pope, married

Richard Beauchamp,* Earl of Warwick. This Earl

* "This *Isabel*, his second wife, being the widow of *Richard Beauchamp*, Earl of Worcester, his Uncle's son, he had a special Dispensation from the Pope to marry her," Dugdale. p. 247.

departed this life 17 Hen. VI. A.D. 1439, leaving issue by her, *Henry* and *Anne*.

Henry Beauchamp, only son and heir, Earl of Warwick, was born in A.D. 1424, 3 Hen. VI., and was created Duke of Warwick in 22 Hen. VI. by that King.

He married *Cecily*, daughter of *Richard Nevill*, Earl of Salisbury; and dying in A.D. 1445, left issue one only daughter *Anne*, who was born in A.D. 1439, and died 3 Jan. 1449.

Whereupon *Anne*, her Aunt, born in A.D. 1429, sister of the whole blood of the late Duke of Warwick, became heir to this earldom, being at that time (A.D. 1449) the wife of *Richard Nevill*, Earl of Warwick, eldest son of *Richard Nevill*, Earl of Salisbury, having been wedded to him the same year that *Henry* her brother married *Cecily* his sister. This Earl after his father's death was Earl of Salisbury.

Which *Richard*, by reason of that marriage, and in respect of his special services about the King's person; and likewise in the wars of *Scotland* (for so doth the Patent import) had, upon the three and twentieth of *July* next, following the death of the before-mentioned *Anne*, his wife's niece, the Dignity and Title of Earl of Warwick, confirmed (Pat. 27 Hen. VI. p. 1. m. 1.) and declared to him and his said wife, and to her heirs, with all pre-eminences, that any of their Ancestors, before the creation of *Henry*, Duke of Warwick, used. This is that *Richard Nevill* who was commonly called the *Stout Earl of Warwick*, having been an eminent actor in those tragic broils between the Houses of Lancaster and York, as our Historians do fully manifest.

This Earl lost his life on Easter-day, A.D. 1471 (11 Edw. IV.) at Barner-Field battle, leaving his Countess in possession of his vast inheritance, all of which was taken from her by authority of Parliament,* and settled upon *Isabel* and *Anne*, her two daughters and heirs (the first of them wife of *George*, Duke of Clarence; and the other wife of *Richard*, Duke of Gloucester;) as if she herself had been naturally dead; which was withheld from her till 3 Hen. VII. A.D. 1488, that the King (having himself a mind thereto, her daughters being both dead) by a new Act of Parliament,† annulled the former, and restored unto her the possession of the premises, with the power to alienate the same, or any part thereof: but not with intention that she should enjoy it, as it seems; for it appears, that the same year, by a special Feoffment,‡ bearing date 13 Dec., and a Fine thereupon, she conveyed it wholly to the King, entailing it upon the issue-male of his body, with remainder to herself and her heirs.

Amongst the numerous Lordships contained in that Grant, are the manors of Burford, Shipton, Spelsbury, Chadlington, and Langley, in Oxfordshire. This Countess was living in 5 Hen. VII. as appears (Pat. 5. Hen. VII. m. 24.) by an assignation from the King of the manor of Sutton, Warwickshire, at that time, for her maintenance; but how long after the author knows not, for of her death there is no record that he can find.

* Rot. Parl. 14 Edw. IV. n. 20.

† Rot. Parl. 3 Hen. VII.

‡ Claus. 3 Hen. VII. in dorso.

Of these two daughters,

Isabel was married 11 July, 1469, (9 Edw. IV.) to *George*, Duke of Clarence, brother of King Edward IV.

Anne was *first* married to *Edward*, Prince of Wales, (son of King Henry VI., stabbed at the battle of Tewkesbury, in cold blood, by *Richard*, Duke of Gloucester, as our Historians affirm) and *afterwards* to *Richard*, Duke of Gloucester ; who, by reason thereof, possessed himself of all Warwick's Lands, imprisoning her mother as long as she lived ; and poisoning her, as it was thought, to make way for his marriage with his brother's (King Edw. IV.) eldest daughter.

From this *Richard Nevill* the Manor of Burford* passed through the House of Clarence to the Crown.

King *Henry VII.* granted the Stewardship of this Manor to

Sir *William Norris*, Knight ; in consideration of his counsel, he being a Lawyer of great esteem in his time.

King *Henry VIII.* granted it to

Thomas Bridges, afterwards of Keynsham Abbey, Somersetshire ; who by his Will was a benefactor to the Church here. *Skelton* says—

“ In 35 Henry VIII. it was granted by that king to

* List of Works consulted in the compilation of the above Compendium of the Lords of this Manor.

Monast. Anglic.

Rot. John. Rous.

Leland's Itinerary. Vol. 6.

Tho. Walf.

Froissart's Chronicles. lib. I. and II.

Hall's Chron.

Dugdale's Baronage.

Kennett's Paroch. Antiq.

Edmund Harman." He furthur says—

"After this, the Estate was divided between

Ann, Duchess of Somerset, and *Edward Lee*. It went subsequently to the Crown, for on 31st of August, 41st of *Elizabeth*, it was sold by that Queen to

Sir *John Fortescue*, Knt.; Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Privy Counsellor to Queen *Elizabeth* and King *James I.* He in the reign of King *James I.* sold it to

Sir *Lawrence Tanfield*, Knt.; Baron of the Court of Exchequer. He left it to his grandson

Lord *Falkland*, by whom it was sold in the reign of *Charles I.* to the

Speaker *Lenthall.*"

Skelton's Oxfordshire.

In *Wood's Atheneæ Oxonienses* it is mentioned that, "About the year 1634 *Will. Lenthall* did, for the sum of £7,000 or thereabouts, purchase of *Lucius Viscount Falkland* the Priory house and land belonging thereunto," and dying here in 1662 was succeeded in this estate by his only son

Sir *John Lenthall*, Knt.; whom *Wood* calls "the grand Braggadocio and Lyer of the age he lived in."

Vol. II. pp. 204, 206. Edit. of 1692.

From him it passed through many generations to his descendant

William John Lenthall, Esq.; who sold it in the year 1827-9 to

Charles Greenaway, Esq., of Barrington Grove, Little Barrington, Gloucestershire, an adjoining estate, who by right of this property became Lord of the Manor. This

gentleman died 25 Nov. 1859, S.P. and was buried in his late father's vault in Little Barrington church.

Miss *Youde*, his Niece, now became Heir to the Priory-estate, but owing to her late father's extravagance this property was much involved, and shortly after Mr. *Greenaway's* death it was placed in Chancery where it is still pending.



CHAPTER IV.

THE PRIORY.

THIS *Priory* was a religious-house belonging to the Abbey of Keynsham, Somersetshire.

The only mention which the Author finds of it in *Dugdale's Monasticon* is, its valuation *temp. Hen. VIII.* £13 „ 6 „ 6.

Leland says, "There was a place in Burford caullyd the Priorie. Horman the Kyng's barber hath now the lands of it." Itin. Vol. VII. 63 b.

Tanner says, "This was a small Priory, or hospital here, dedicated to St. *John* the Evangelist. It was valued at £13 „ 6 „ 6 *per annum*; and granted 35 Hen. VIII. to Edmund Herman."*

Notitia Monastica. 428.

* *Harman* is evidently the correct name, (see Note G. in Appendix) though spelt *Horman* and *Herman* by Authors quoted above. *Tradition* says, to *Hercules Harman* because over the entrance are two human figures of stone which are allegorical of the name:—the one figure holding a club is *Hercules*, and the other covered with hair holding the trunk of a tree and having a hare between his feet represents *Harman*, or hair or hareman, the two standing for *Hercules Harman*.

The Author prefers old *Verstegan's* derivation:—he observes, "*Harman* should rightly bee *Hartman*, to wit, a man of harte or courage."

It also signifies a Soldier or Constable, in both which vocations heart or courage is necessary.

“A meadow in *Sherborne** did belong to the Priory of St. *John* the Evangelist in Burford, which Priory was valued at the Dissolution at £13 ,, 6 ,, 6. This meadow was granted to *Edmond Herman* 35 H. 8”

Atkins' Gloucestershire, p. 645.

“The Advowson of the Rectory of *Widford*,† and a toft of lands which lately belonged to the Priory of St. *John* the Evangelist in Burford, were granted to *Edmond Herman* 37 H. 8.”

Atkins' Gloucestershire, p. 819.

No part of this religious establishment remaining at the Dissolution, Mr. *Harman* was reported to have built a private residence, termed the *Priory*, on the site of it.

This estate afterwards belonged to

Sir *Lawrence Tanfield*, Knt. ; one of the Judges of the King's Bench, who undoubtedly built, (*temp. James I.*) out of the old building, the handsome mansion occupied by Mr. Lenthall in the year 1790.

About the year 1808 the whole of the North wing and full half of the Eastern front were pulled down, thus de-

* *Sherborne* is in Gloucestershire ; 4 miles west from Burford.

† *Widford* is in Gloucestershire ; 1 mile east from Burford. This Manor formerly belonged to the Lords *Lovell*. *Francis* Lord *Lovell*, was in great favour with King *Richard* the Third, and was partaker with him in his wicked practices, and was therefore advanced to be Lord Chamberlain, on whom this distich was made :—

“ The Rat, the Cat, and Lovell that Dog,
Rule all England under the Hog.”

stroying the *Elizabethan* character as well as the beauty and grandeur of this fine and interesting house. Fresh rooms were *then* added, which were considered more suited to the needs of an improved elegance of manners.

William John Lenthall, Esq., resided here in the year 1827, but he alienated the estate in 1829, and sold the fine collection of family Pictures^l at *Christie's*, London, a few years later.

This *once* handsome residence is *now* in ruins and fast tumbling to the ground.

It is enclosed from the town by a high wall, and the large entrance-gates have been taken away and the space filled up with stones.

The lover of old houses must *formerly* have been pleased with the style of the building, which consisted of two wings, and a middle projection in which is the entrance-door,^m with scalloped gables which distinguished the Architecture of the seventeenth century.

The inside consisted of a large hall, on the sides of which were Dining and Drawing rooms, and on the left a heavy *Elizabethan* staircase leading to a large Drawing-room, an abundance of Bedrooms, and other requisite offices.

It is matter of regret that this venerable residence, erected on the site of an ancient religious institution, has been allowed to fall into deplorable and premature decay.

^l See Note L.

^m See Note M.

THE CHAPEL.

The Chapel adjoining, built by the Speaker *Lenthall*, is likewise fast tumbling down.

In the year 1799 it was disused, but the Pulpit, Pews, &c., were there ; and the ceiling was full of stucco-work, in one compartment of which was, the Adoration of the Shepherds, with *Gloria patri in excelsis*, &c. ; in another compartment, Abraham offering up Isaac : all of which are gone. On each side of the doorway *still* stands a small angel on a pedestal.

Under one is written,

Exue calceos tuos

Servabimur

Exod. III. 5.

Under the other,

Nam terra est sancta.

Quasi per ignem.

1 Cor. III. 15.

Over the door seems to be a representation in Bass-relief of a bush in flames. I say, *seems*, because unless explained by the above inscriptions it would not be readily acknowledged as such.

This Chapel *was* approached by the family (previous to the year 1799) by a communication from the large Drawing-room upstairs over the leads of the passage which connected it with the South wing, *now* in ruins and almost impassible.

THE GARDENS.

Here are Gardens,* but no ornamental grounds of

* Mr. *John Prior* was murdered and found hid in the Summer-house here, and buried in the Chancel of Burford Church, April 6, 1697.

See Register-book of this date.

any extent; the back front is shut in by some trees at the bottom of the garden, beyond which is the open hilly country.

On the north side of the house there is a pleasing slope (on which are two magnificent trees) to the river, and there is a view across a flat to a green rising hill, called *Westhall*, on the top of which an old and deserted Manor-house forms a pretty object.



CHAPTER V.

EMINENT MEN.

William Lenthall, second son of *William Lenthall*, of *Lachford*, Oxfordshire, by *Frances* his wife, daughter of *Sir Thomas Southwell*, of *St. Faith's*, Norfolk, was born at *Henley-upon-Thames*, Oxfordshire, in June, 1591, descended from *William Lenthall* or *Leynthall*, of *Lenthall*, *Herefordshire*.

He became a Commoner of *St. Alban's Hall*, Oxford, in the year 1606, but left at the end of 3 years without a Degree and went to *Lincolns Inn* where he became a Counsellor of note, and in 13 *Charles I.* Lent-reader of the said Inn. In the latter end of the year 1639 he was elected Burgess for the Corporation of *Woodstock*, Oxfordshire, and again in Oct. 1640, for the same place to serve in that unhappy Convention called the *Long Parliament*, begun 3 Nov. the same year : at which time being elected Speaker of the House of Commons, (worth £2,000 per an.) he kept that office, by siding with the the leading party, till its dissolution, without any adherence to the king. He became Master of the *Rolls* 8 Nov. 1643, (worth £3,000 per an.) one of the Commissioners of the *Great Seal* in 1646, (worth £1,500 per an.) Chamberlain of *Chester* in 1647, a place of profit and honour, about



WILLIAM LENTHALL,
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

This Engraving was presented by W. R. COOKE, Esq.

the same time he became Chancellor of the Dutchy of *Lancaster*, (worth £1,000 per an.) and anything else that he desired. Besides these honourable places, he had £6,000 at one time given to him by the Parliament, and at another, "the Rectory and Demesne of Burford, in Oxfordshire, with a stately house there, lately belonging to *Lucius* Viscount *Falkland*," as the author of the *Mystery of the good old cause* reports, (London. 1660. p. 17.) but falsely *Wood* supposes, "for about the year 1634 the said *Will. Lenthall* did, for the sum of £7,000 or thereabouts, purchase of the said *Lucius* the Priory-house (*the stately house* before mentioned) and land belonging thereunto." *Athenæ. Oxonienses.* p. 204.

In 1648 when there was a debate in the Parliament House whether the treaty should be with the king in the Isle of *Wight*, upon the propositions of *Hampton Court*, there were for it 57 yeas, and against it 57 noes; whereupon he, as *Speaker*, turned the scales to yeas.

In 1653, *Oliver* deprived him of this office, but elected him *Speaker* again in 1654; he was also of the *Rump* Parliament in 1659.

In 1660 he was exiled, but afterwards obtained from the king a general pardon, and retiring to his house at *Burford* before mentioned, endeavoured to make amends for the past by shewing great love to Scholars and the neighbouring Clergy till the time of his death.

He died here 3 Sept. 1662, and was buried* two days

* "*William Lenthall*, Esq., Lord of the Burrough of Burford buried the fift day of September 1662." See Register-book of this date.

Mr. Lenthall did not die on 1 Sept. as stated by *Burke* in his "Landed Gentry" of 1858. p. 689.

after without pomp in *Pynnock's Aisle* of *Burford Church*. He forbid any excessive costs at his funeral, or any monument, or any other epitaph than *Vermis sum*; so that there is no memorial of him existing in this place.

What remains more to be remembered of him is his own confession on his death-bed to

Dr. *Ralph Brideoak* then Rector of *Witney*, near *Burford*: who administering to him ghostly counsel, and desiring to know how he had kept and observed the fifth commandment, reminding him that disobedience, rebellion, and schism were the great sins against it, made this confession:—

“Yes, there is my trouble, my disobedience not against my natural parents only, but against the *Pater patrisc*, our deceased Sovereign. I confess with *Saul*, I held their clothes whilst they murdered him, but herein I was not so criminal as *Saul* was, for God thou knowest, I never consented to his death, I ever prayed and endeavoured what I could against it, but I did too-much, Almighty God forgive me,” &c.

Then the Doctor urged him to confess, if he knew any of those villains that plotted and contrived that horrid murder, which were not then detected; to which he answered, “I am a stranger to that business, my soul never entered into that secret; but what concerns myself I will confess freely. These are especially laid to my charge, wherein indeed I am too guilty; as first, that I went from the Parliament to the Army. 2, That I proposed the bloody question for trying the king. And 3, That I sat in Parliament after the king's death.”

“To the first, I may give this answer, that *Cromwell* and his agents deceived a wiser man than myself, I mean that excellent king, and then might well deceive me also, and so they did. I knew the Presbyterians would never restore the king to his just rights, these men (*the Independents*) swore they would. For the second, no excuse can be made, but I have the king’s pardon, and I hope Almighty God will shew me his mercy also : yet even then, when I put the question, I hoped the very putting the question would have cleared him, because I believed four for one were against it, but they deceived me also. To the third, I make this candid confession, that it was my own baseness and cowardice and unworthy fear to submit myself to the mercy of those men that murdered the king, that hurried me on against my own conscience to act with them. Yet then, I thought also, I might do some good, and hinder some ill. Something I did for the Church and Universities, something for the king when I broke the *oath* of abjuration*. Something also for his return ; but the ill I did, overweighed the little good I would have done. God forgive me for this also,” &c.

* It is said that one Mrs. *Catherine Johnson*, a pretender to Prophecy, did some time before, tell *Will. Lenthall* that the *oath of abjuration* against the Royal Family should be endeavoured to pass in Parliament : which if he would deny, he should afterwards be forgiven for what he had done against the King. So that upon her warning, *he* (upon the proposal of that *oath*) *absented himself from the House for about ten days, under pretence of the Gout*. See more in a book called, *The Mystery and Method of his Majesties happy Restauration, &c.*, by *Joh. Price*, D.D.—London. 1680. Oct. p. 40.

He also confessed that, "he had no hand in, or gave any consent to, *the murdering and ruining the Fathers of the Church*; and also that, *he died a dutiful son of the Church of England, as it was established before the Rebellion broke out,*" &c.

After which confession, which was done like a very sincere penitent, he received the Absolution of the Church with much content and satisfaction.

See fuller account of *Speaker Lenthall* in
Wood's Athen. Oxon. pp. 203—206.

Copy of a letter from Oliver Cromwell to the Speaker Lenthall, giving an account of the battle of Naseby.

"To the Honourable W. Lenthall, Speaker to the Commons House of Parliament."

"SIR,

Being commanded by you to this Service, I think myself bound to acquaint you with the good hand of God towards you and us: we marched yesterday after the king, who went before us from Daventry to Haversbrowe, and quartered about six miles from him;—he drew out to meet us—both armies engag'd.—We, after three hours fight—very doubtful,—at last routed his army—killed and took about 5000—very many officers—but of what quality, we yet know not.—We took also about 200 carag. all he had—and all his guns being twelve in number—whereof two were demi-culverins and I think the rest fascies—we pursued the enemy from three miles short of Haversbrowe to nine beyond—ever to sight of Leicester,"

“whither the king fled.—Sir—this is none other but the hand of God;—and to him alone belongs the glory—wherein none are to share with him.—The general served you with all faithfulness and honour—and the best recommendation I can give of him is, that I dare say he attributes all to God and would rather perish than to assume himself, which is an honest and thriving way—yet as much for bravery must be given to him in this action as to a man.—Honest men served you faithfully in this action.—Sir, they are trusty—I beseech you in the name of God, not to discourage them.—I wish this action may beget thankfulness and humility in all that are concern’d in it.—He that ventures his life for the good of his country—I wish he trusts God for the liberty of his conscience and you for the liberty he fights for.—In this he rests who is your most humble Servant

O. CROMWELL.”

“Haversbrowe, June 14, 1645.”

See Historical Sketches of King Charles I.,
by W. D. Fellows. pp. 228, 229. Pub: 1828.

*Copy of General Cromwell's account of the Battle of
Dunbar, in a letter to Lenthall, the Speaker.*

“SIR,

I hope it is not ill taken that I make no more frequent addresses to the Parliament. Things that are of trouble in point of provision for your army, and of ordinary direction, I have, as I could, often presented to the Council of State, together with such occurrences as have”

“happened, who I am sure, as they have not been wanting in their extraordinary care and provision for us, so neither what they judge fit and necessary to represent the same to you ; and this I thought to be a sufficient discharge of my duty on that behalf.

It has now pleased God to bestow a mercy, upon you, worthy of your knowledge, and of the utmost praise and thanks of all that love and fear his name ; yea, the mercy is far above all praise, which, that you may the better perceive, I shall take the boldness to tender unto you the same circumstances accompanying the great business, which will manifest the greatness and seasonableness of this mercy. We having tried what we could to engage the enemy three or four miles west of Edinburgh, that proving ineffectual, and our victuall failing, we marched towards our shippes, for a recruit of our want ; the enemy did not at all trouble us in our rere, but marched the direct way towards Edinburgh, and partly in the night and morning slipps thro’ his whole army and quarters himself in a posture, easy to interpose between us and our victuall, but the Lord made him lose the opportunity, and the morning proving exceeding wett and dark, we recovered by that time it was light into a ground where they could not hinder us from our victuall, which was a high act of the Lord’s providence to us. We being come into the saide ground, the enemy marched into the ground we were last upon, having no mind either to strive to get between us and our victuall, or to fight, being, indeed, upon this lock, hoping that the sickness of our army would render their work more easy by the gaining of time.”

“Whereupon we marched to Musselburgh to victual and to ship away our sick men, where we sent aboard neere 500 sick and wounded soldiers; and upon serious consideration, finding our weakness so to increase, and the enemy living upon his advantages, at a general council, it was thought fitte to march to Dunbar, and there to fortify the towne, which we thought, if any thinge, would provoke them to engage; as also that the having a garrison there would furnish us with accommodation for our sick men, and would be a place for a good magazene (which we exceedingly wanted) being put to depend upon the uncertainty of weather for landing provisions, which many times cannot be done, tho’ the being of the whole army lay upon it, all the coast from Leith to Berwick, not having one good harbour; as also, to lye more conveniently to receive our recruits of horse and foot from Berwick. Having these considerations, upon Saturday, the 30th of August, we marched from Musselburgh to Heddington where by the time we had got the van brigade of our horse and foot and traine into their quarters, the enemy was marched with that exceeding expedition, that they fell upon the rere forlorn of our horse and put it into some disorder, and indeed had like to have engaged our rere brigade of horse with their whole army, had not the Lord by his good providence put a cloude over the moone, thereby giving us opportunity to draw off these horse to the rest of the army, which accordingly was done without any losse, save of three or four of our forementioned forlorn, wherein the enemy (as we believe) received more losse. The army being put into a reasonable”

“secure posture, towards midnight the enemy attempted our quarter on the west end of Heddington, but (through the goodness of God) we repulsed them. The next morning we drew into an open field on the south side of Heddington, we not judging it safe for us to draw to the enemy upon his own ground, he being already prepossessed thereof, but rather drew back to give him way to come to us, if he had so thought fitte; and having waited about the space of four or five hours, to see if he would come to us and not finding any inclination in the enemy so to doe, we resolved to goe, according to our first entendment to Dunbar.

By that time we had marched three or four miles, we saw some bodies of the enemy's horse draw out of their quarters; and by that time our carriages had gotten near Dunbar, their whole army was upon their marche after us; and indeed our drawing back in this manner with the addition of three new regiments added to them, did much heighten their confidence, if not presumption and arrogance. The enemy, that night, we perceived gather towards the hills, labouring to make a perfect interposition between us and Berwick; and having in this posture, a great advantage, through their better knowledge of the country, which he effected by sending a considerable partie to the straight Pass at Coppeth, where ten men to hinder are better than forty to make their way, and truly this was an exegent to us wherewith the enemy reproached us with that condition, the Parliament's army was in when it made its hard conditions with the king in Cornwall.”

“By some reports that have come to us, they had disposed of us and of their business in sufficient revenge and wrath towards our persons ; and had swallowed up the poor interest of England ; believing that their armie and their king would have marched to London without any interruption, it being told us, we know not how truly, by a prisoner we took the night before the fight, that their king was very suddenly to come amongst them with those English they allowed to be about him, but in what they were thus lifted up, the Lord was above them. The enemy lying in the posture above mentioned, having these advantages, we lay very near him, being sensible of our disadvantage, having some weakness of flesh, but yet consolation and support on the Lord himself to our poor weak faith, wherein, I believe, not a few amongst us shared, that because of their numbers, because of their advantage, because of their confidence, because of our weaknesse, because of our straight we were in the mount the Lord would be sure, and that he would find a way for us, whereby we might escape. And indeed we had our consolation and our hopes. Upon Monday evening, the enemy whose numbers were very great, as we learn about 6000 horse and 16000 foote, at least, ours drawn down, as to sound men, about 7500 foote and 3500 horse. The enemy drew down to their right-winge about two thirds of their left-winge of horse, to their right-winge, shogging also their foöte and traine much to the right, causing their winge of horse to edge down towards the sea. We could not well imagine but that the enemy intended to attempt upon us, or to place themselves in a more exact”

“condition of interposition. The Major generall and myself coming to the Earl of Roxborough’s house, and observing his posture, I told him I thought it did give us an opportunity to advantage, to attempt upon the enemy; to which he immediately replied, that he had thought to have said the same thing to me; so that it pleased the Lorde to sett this apprehension upon both our hearts at the same instant. We called for Colonell Monke and shewed him the thing, and coming to our quarters at night, and demonstrating our apprehensions to some of the Colonells, they also cheerfully concurred. We resolved therefore to put our business into this posture, and that sixe regiments of horse and three regiments and a halfe of foote should marche in the van, and that the Major generall, the Lieutenant generall of the horse, and the Commissary generall and Colonell Monke, to command the brigade of foote, should lead on the business, and that Colonell Pride’s brigade, Colonell Overton’s brigade, and the remaining two regiments of horse, should bring up the cannon and rere, the time of falling on to be by breake of day, but by some delay it proved not to be till five a clock in the morninge. The enemy’s worde was **THE COVENANT**, which they had used for diverse days, ours **THE LORD OF HOSTS**. The Major generall, Lieutenant generall Whalley and Lieutenant generall Twisleton, gave the onset, the enemy being in very good position to receive them, having the advantage of their cannon and foote, against our horse, and before our foote could come up, the enemy made a gallant resistance. And there was a very hott dispute at sword’s”

“point between our horse and theirs. Our first foote, after they had discharged their first duty, being overpowered with the enemy, received some repulse, which they soon recovered ; but my own regiment, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonell Goff, and my Major White, did come seasonably in, and at push of pike did repel the stoutest regiment the enemy had there, meerly with the courage which the Lorde was pleased to give, which proved a great amazement to the residue of their foote, this being the first action between the foote : the horse in the mean time did, with a great deal of courage and spirit, beat backe all opposition, charging through the bodies of the enemies horse and their foote, which were after the first repulse given by the Lord of Hosts, as stubble to their swordes. Indeed I believe I may speak it without partiality, both your chief Commanders and others in their several places, and soldiers also, acted with as much courage as ever had been seen in any action since this war ; I know they look not to be named, and therefore I forbare particulars. The best of the enemies horse and foote being broken through and through, in less than an hower’s dispute their whole army being put into confusion, it became a totall route, and our men having the chase and execution of them near eight miles. We believe that upon the place and nere about it were 3000 slaine ; prisoners taken of their officers you have this inclosed list ; of private soldiers nere 10,000, the whole baggage and trayne taken, in which was good store of match, powder and bullet, all their artillerie, great and small, thirty gunns. We are confident they have left”

“behind them no less than 15,000 arms. I have already brought into me nere 200 collours, which I herewith sende you. What officers of quality of theirs are killed we yet cannot learne, but surely diverse are, and many men of quality are mortally wounded, as Colonell Lumsdell, the Lord Libberton, and others; and that which is no small addition, I believe we have not lost 20 men, not one commissioned officer slaine, as I heare of, save one cornet and Major Rooksby, since dead of his wounds, and not many mortally wounded; Colonell Whalley only cut in the handwrist and his horse twice shot and killed under him; but he well recovered another horse and went on in his chase. Thus you have the prospect of one of the most signal mercies God has done for England and his people this war. And now may it please you to give me the leave of a few words. It is easy to say the Lord hath done this. It would do you good to see our poor foote go up and down making their boast of God. But, Sir, it is in your handes, and by these eminent mercies, God puts into your handes to give glory to him, to improve your power and his blessing to his praise. We that serve you beg of you not to owne us but God alone. We pray you owne his people more and more, for they are his chariots and horsemen of Israel. Disowne yourselves, but owne your authority, and improve it to curb the proud and insolent, such as would disturbe the tranquillity of England, through under what specious pretences soever: relieve the oppressed, hear the groanes of poor prisoners in England: be pleased to reforme the abuses of all professions, and if there be any one that”

“makes many poore, to make a few riche, that suits not a commonwealth. If he that strengthens your servants to fight, pleases to give you hearts to sett upon those things in order to his glory and the glory of your commonwealth besides the benefit that England shall feelee thereby, you shall shine forth to other nations, who shall emulate the glory of such a pattern and through the power of God turn into the like. These are our desires, and that you may have liberty and opportunity to do these things and not be hindered, we have bene and shall, (by God’s assistance) willing to venture our lives, and not desire you should be precipitated by importunity from your care of safetie and preservation ; but that the doing these good things may have their place amongst those which concern well being, and so be wrought in their time and order. Since we came in Scotland, it has been our desire and longing to avoide blood in this business, by reason God hath a people here fearing his name, though deceived ; and to that end we have offered much love unto suche in the bowells of Christe ; and concerning the truth of our hearts therein have we appealed unto the Lord. The ministers of Scotland have hindered the passage of these things to the hearts of those to whom we intended them, and now we heare that not only the deceived people but some of the ministers are also fallen in the battle. This is the great hand of the Lord and worthy of the consideration of all those who take into their hands the instruments of a foolish Shepherd—to witt, meddling with worldly policies and mixtures of earthly power, to set up that which they call the king-”

“dom of Christ, which is neither it, nor if it were it, would such means be found effectual to that end; and neglect or trust not to the Word of God, the sword of the Spirit which is alone powerful and able for the setting up of that kingdome, and when trusted to, will be found effectually able to that end and will also do it. This is humbly offered for their sakes, who having lately much turned aside, that they might returne againe to preache Jesus Christ according to the simplicity of the Gospell, and then no doubt they will discerne and find your protection and encouragement. Beseeching you to pardon this length, I humbly take leave, and rest

Your humble Servant,

O. CROMWELL.”

Dunbarr, September 24th, 1650.

For the honourable *William Lenthall*, Esq., Speaker
of the Parliament of England.

W. D. Fellowes. pp. 230—336.

NOTE.—The above *two* letters are curious specimens of Cromwell's epistolary style, and are assuredly characteristic of him whom *Hampden* said to Lord *Digby*:—*That sloven will be the greatest man in England.*

Soon after the execrable execution of King Charles Cromwell obtained the command of the Army, being saluted General, (the *Parliament's* General.)

Butler in his *Hudibras*, Part III. Canto II. lines 907—910, thus writes of Speaker *Lenthall* :—

“ Cut out more work than can be done
In Plato’s year,* but finish none,
Unless it be the bulls of Lenthall,
That always pass’d for fundamental:”†

PETER HEYLYN.

Peter Heylyn son of *Henry Heylyn*, descended from an ancient family of his name living at *Pentrie-Heylyn* in Montgomeryshire, was born here (Burford) 29 Nov. 1599, and educated at the Grammar School.

In the year 1613 he was placed by his father at *Hart Hall*,‡ Oxford; two years afterwards he was chosen

* The Platonic year, or time required for a complete revolution of the entire machine of the World, has by some been made to consist of 4,000 common years: others have thought it must extend to 26,000, or still more.

† The Ordinances published by the House of Commons were signed by *Lenthall*, the Speaker, and were therefore called “the bulls of Lenthall.”

They may be termed “fundamental,” because many of them were issued by order of the Rump Parliament.

‡ Afterwards *Hertford College*, and now *St. Mary Magdalen Hall*. “On May 3, 1820, the foundation-stone of the future residence of the Scholars of this Hall, was laid on the site of the dissolved College of *Hertford*, which obtained its name from an Inn possessed by one *Elias de Hertford*, who let it out to Clerks about 1281, when it was called *Hertford*, or corruptly *Hert*, or *Hart Hall*. It was established as a Collegiate Hall in 1314, by *Walter de Stapledon*, Bishop of”

Demi of *Magdalen* College, and took his B.A. degree in 1617, and his M.A. in 1620.

In 1623 he was ordained Deacon and Priest.

In the latter end of 1628 he went as Chaplain to the Earl of *Danby* to the Isle of Guernsey, of which his Lordship was Governor.

In Oct. 1631, he was made Rector of *Henningford*, Huntingdonshire, and on 1 Nov. following the king gave him a Prebendship of *Westminster*.

The next year the king bestowed on him the rich Parsonage of *Houghton-le-Spring*, Durham, which, for his own convenience, the king allowed him to exchange for the Rectory of *Ailresford*, Hampshire. In 1633, he took his D.D. degree.

Afterwards, being persecuted by the Parliamentarians who deprived him of his Church preferments, sequestrated his estates, and his family being in consequence reduced to urgent necessity, he in 1647 retired to *Minster-Lovel*, Oxfordshire, where, taking a farm of his Nephew, Col. *Henry Heylyn*, in the year following, he lived six years or more spending much of his time in writing Books.

Thence he removed to *Abingdon*, Berks, where he bought a house and land called *Lacies Court*, five miles from Oxford. In 1660, upon his majesty's return to his kingdoms, he was restored to his Spiritualities, but never rose higher than Sub-Dean of *Westminster*.

“ Exeter, and was converted into a College in 1739 by its Principal, Dr. *Richard Newton*.”

Tymms' Family Topographer. Vol IV. p. 185.

He was a warm defender of Dr. *Laud*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, who was beheaded in 1644.

Among his numerous writings the following have obtained the most prominent notice :—

Microcosmus : or, A description of the great world.

Cosmography.

Ecclesia Vindicata : or, The Church of England justified.

His *Historical Tracts* also contain much useful matter, The *Cosmography* was the last book that its author wrote with his own hand (1651), for after it was finished, his eyes failed him, that he could neither see to write nor read without the help of an *Amanuensis*, whom he kept to his dying day. He died on Ascension-day (May 8) 1662, and was buried in St. *Peter's* church, *Westminster*.

For fuller particulars of this *eminent* divine and *voluminous* Author, see *Wood's Athen. Oxon.* Vol. I. pp. 181—188.

LUCIUS CARY.

Lucius Cary, (son and heir of *Henry Cary*, Viscount *Falkland*, of *Scotland*, by *Elizabeth*, his wife, sole daughter and heir of Sir *Lawrence Tanfield*, Knt., Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer,) afterwards Lord *Falkland*, was born here (*Burford*) in the year 1610. When his father became Lord Deputy of *Ireland*, An. 1622, he took his son *Lucius* with him into that country, and placed him in *Trinity College, Dublin* ; but upon his

return to *England*, he sent him to finish his studies at *Oxford*.

His early life was spent in *Poetry* and *polite learning*, which caused him to be admired by the *Poets* of those times ; viz. :—

Ben. Johnson has an epigram upon him in his *Underwood*, 2nd Vol. of his Works.

Edmund Waller, of *Beaconsfield*, mentions him in his *Poems written on several occasions*. p. 81. pub. 1668.

Sir John Suckling, in his Poem called *the Session of Poets*, (p. 10. pub. 1648.) thus mentions him :—

“ He was of late so gone with Divinity,
That he had almost forgot his Poetry,
Though to say the truth (and Apollo did know it)
He might have been both his Priest and his Poet.”

About the time of his father's death (in 1633), he became one of the Gentlemen of his Majesty's Privy Chamber ; and frequently retired to his house at *Great Tew*, and sometimes went to *Oxford*, to have the company of, and conversation with, learned and witty men.

In 1639, he was put in Commission for his Majesty in the expedition against the *Scots* ; and upon his safe return, *Abr. Cowley*, the Prince of Poets and a great admirer of him, makes honourable mention of him in his Works, printed in 1678.

In the beginning of the year 1640 he was chosen a Member of the House of Commons, for *Newport* in the Isle of *Wight*. He was made Secretary of State, and ever after adhered to his Majesty, and was with him at

Edge-hill fight, and afterwards at *Oxford*, where he discharged his office with a great deal of prudence.

Of this *Lucius* Lord *Falkland*, *Wood* says, "This learned Author being with his Majesty King *Charles* I., at *Newbury*, in *Berks*, when he was about to fight the Rebels, he called for a clean shirt in the morning before the encounter began ; and being asked the reason for it, he answered that 'if he was slain in the battle they should not find his body in foul linnen.' Whereupon his friends endeavouring to dissuade him from going into the fight, as having no call to it, or that he was a military officer, he said 'he was weary of the times and foresaw much misery to his own country, and did believe he should be out of it before night.' Into the battle therefore he did go, notwithstanding all persuasions to the contrary, and was there slain, 20 Sept. 1643, *much lamented*, as a great Parliamentarian* saith, *of all that knew him, being a Gentleman of great parts, ingenuity and honour, courteous and just to all, and a passionate promoter of all endeavours of peace betwixt the King and Parliament.* Whether the Church of England lost a friend by his death, some have doubted : sure it is, learning itself had a loss, and one of the greatest (as many Clergymen have said) that ever hapned in that or in the age before. His body was conveyed to *Oxon*, and afterwards to *Great Tew* (before mentioned), where it was buried in the Church without being carried into his house there. Over his grave, tho there be"

* *Bulstrode Whitlock* in his *Memorials of English Affairs*, printed 1682. p. 70. a.

“not yet any memory extant, yet Sir *Franc. Wortley* of *Wortley* in *Yorkshire*, Knight and Baronet, an admirer of his virtues and learning, who stiles him *Musarum militumque patronus* hath bestowed an Epitaph and an Elegy on him in his book *intit. Characters and Elegies*, printed 1646. His person was little and of no great strength, his hair blackish and somewhat shaggy, and his eye black and quick. He left behind him a most disconsolate widow named *Letice*, the daughter of Sir *Rich. Morison*, of *Tooley-Park*, in *Leicestershire*, Knight, the most devout, pious and virtuous woman of the time she lived in, who dying about the 35 year of her age was buried by her husband in Feb. 1646.”

Athen. Oxon. Vol. I. p. 503.

That most delightful Historian, Lord *Clarendon*, in his account of the battle of *Newbury*, thus writes :—

“In this unhappy battle, was slain the Lord Viscount *Falkland*; a person of such prodigious parts of learning and knowledge, of that inimitable sweetness and delight in conversation, of so flowing and obliging a humanity and goodness to mankind, and of that primitive simplicity and integrity of life, that if there were no other brand upon this odious and accursed Civil War, than that single loss, it must be most infamous, and execrable to all posterity.”.....“In the morning before the battle, as always upon action, he was very cheerful, and put himself into the first rank of Lord *Byron*’s regiment, then advancing upon the enemy, who had lined the hedges on both sides with Musqueteers; from whence he was shot with a musquet in the lower part of the belly,”

“and in the instant falling from his horse, his body was not found till the next morning ; till when, there was some hope he might have been a prisoner ; though his nearest friends, who knew his temper, received small comfort from that imagination. Thus fell that incomparable young man, in the four and thirtieth year of his age, having so much dispatched the true business of life, that the eldest rarely attain to that immense knowledge, and the youngest enter not into the world with more innocency : whosoever leads such a life needs be the less anxious upon how short warning it is taken from him.”

Clarendon's Hist. of the Rebellion and Civil Wars.

Vol. II. pp. 270, 277.

For fuller account of this Nobleman and his character see *Clarendon's Hist.* Vols. I. and II., and *Wood's Athen.* Oxon. Vol. I. p. 500, 1, 2, 3.

THE SORTES VIRGILIANÆ.

An Anecdote of King *Charles I.* and Lord *Falkland*, extracted from Historical Sketches of that king by W. D. Fellowes.

The king being at Oxford, during the Civil Wars, went one day to see the Library, where he was shown, among other books, a *Virgil* nobly printed and exquisitely bound. The Lord *Falkland*, to divert the king, would have his Majesty make a trial of his fortune by the *Sortes Virgilianæ*, which everybody knows was an usual kind of Augury some ages past. Whereupon the king opening the book, the period which happened to come

up was that part of *Dido's* imprecation against *Æneas*, which Mr. *Dryden* translates thus :—

“ Yet, let a race untamed, and haughty foes,
His peaceful entrance with dire arms oppose ;
Oppressed with numbers in th’ unequal field,
His men discouraged, and himself expelled ;
Let him for succour sue from place to place,
Torn from his subjects’ and his son’s embrace ;
First let him see his friends in battle slain,
And their untimely fate lament in vain ;
And when at length the cruel war shall cease,
On hard conditions may he buy his peace ;
Nor let him then enjoy supreme command,
But fall untimely by some hostile hand ;
And lie unburied in the barren sand.”

Æneid. B. IV. l. 88.

It is said that King *Charles* seemed affected at this accident, and that the Lord *Falkland*, observing it, would likewise try his own fortune, in the same manner ; hoping that he might fall upon some passage that could have no relation to his case, and thereby divert the king’s thoughts from any impression the other might have made upon him. But the place that *Falkland* tumbled upon, was yet more suitable to his destiny, than the other had been to the king’s ; being the following expression of *Erander*, upon the untimely death of his son *Pallas*, as they are translated by the same hand :—

“ O Pallas ! thou hast failed thy plighted word,
To fight with caution, not to tempt the sword ;
I warned thee, in vain, for well I knew
What perils youthful ardour would pursue :”

“ That boiling blood would carry thee too far ;
 Young as thou wert in dangers—raw in war !
 Oh ! curst essay in arms—disastrous doom—
 Prelude of bloody fields and fights to come.”

Ibid. B. II. l. 220.

Fellowes. pp. 214, 215.

*The Lord Falkland's petition to the King in behalf of
 his rebellious Son.**

“ Most humbly shewing, that I had a sonne, until I lost him, in your Highness displeasure, where I cannot seek him, because I have not will to find him there. Men say, there is a wild young man now prisoner in the Fleet, for measuring his actions by his own private sense. But now that for the same your Majesties hand hath appeared in his punishment, he bows and humbles himself before, and to it : whether he be mine or not, I can discern by no light, but that of your Royal Clemency ; for only in your forgiveness can I own him for mine. Forgiveness is the glory of the supremest powers, and this the operation, that when it is extended in the greatest measure, it converts the greatest offenders into the”

* He was his Lordship's second son, and succeeded to the Title and Estates on the death of his elder brother. He was wild and extravagant, and sold his deceased father's incomparable Library for a horse and a mare.

Afterwards he reformed, and proved a man of learning and ability. This *Henry*, Viscount *Falkland* (ancestor of the present Viscount *Falkland*) represented the county of Oxford, and was made Lord Lieutenant of it, after the Restoration, and died April 2, 1663, aged 29, or thereabouts, and was buried by the graves of his father and mother.

“greatest lovers, and so makes purchase of the heart, an especial privilege peculiar and due to Sovereign Princes. If now your Majesty will vouchsafe, out of your own benignity to become a second nature, and restore that unto me which the first gave me, and vanity deprived me of, I shall keep my reckoning of the full number of my sons with comfort, and render the tribute of my most humble thankfulness; else my weak old memory must forget one.”

Cabala. p. 238. Printed in London. 1663.

“ Who by their precedents of wit,
T’outfast, outloiter, and outsit,*
&c. &c. &c. &c.”

Butler’s Hudibras. Part III.

Canto II. Lines 897, 8.

* By these arts and methods, the leaders on the Parliament side, defeated the purposes of the Loyalists, and carried such points in the House as were disagreeable to the sober part, and indeed, to the majority.

Thus the remonstrance was carried, as Lord *Clarendon* says, merely by the hour of the night; the debates being continued till two o’clock, and very many having withdrawn out of pure faintness and disability to attend the conclusion.

The bill against Episcopacy, and others, were carried by outfasting, and outsitting those who opposed it: which made Lord *Falkland* say, “that they who hated Bishops, hated them worse than the Devil, and that they who loved them, did not love them so well as their dinner.”

Clarendon’s Hist. Vol. I. p. 216.

MARCHEMONT NEEDAM.

Marchemont Needam,* son of *March Needam*, a Gentleman of *Derbyshire*, (B.A. of *St. John's Coll.*; and *Gloucester Hall*,† Oxford, afterwards an Attendant on the Lady *Elizabeth Lucas*, sister of *John Lord Lucas*, and wife of Sir *William Walter*, Bart.; of *Sarsden*, near this town) by *Margery* his wife, daughter of *John Collier* the Host of the *George-Inn*, then the principal place for the reception of Guests in *Burford*, was born here in August, 1620; and baptized on the 21st instant.

His father dying in the year following, his mother was the next year after that married to the Rev. *Christopher Glynn*, Vicar of this town, and Master of the Free-School here, under whom he received his early education.

At about 14 years of age he was sent to *All Souls' College*,‡ Oxford, where he continued till he took his B.A. degree in 1637, and then removed to *St. Mary's Hall* for a time.

* Not *Needham* or *Nedham* as spelt by Authors.

The following is an exact copy of an entry in the Register Book in *Burford church*:—

"1620.

BAPTISMES.

Marchemont the Sonn of March Needam. 21. Aug."

† Now *Worcester College*.

‡ This College, so denominated from the directions given to the Society to pray for the *souls* of *all* the faithful deceased, was founded in 1437 by *Henry Chicheley*, Archbishop of Canterbury.

The Author is of Founder's kin at this College.

He afterwards became an Usher in *Merchant Taylor's* School, but how long he continued there does not appear.

Certain it is, that upon the breaking out of the Civil War he became an under-clerk in *Gray's Inn*, and a *weathercock* political writer.

The popular side seemed to promise most emolument, and he therefore, in 1643, commenced a weekly Satire on the Court under the title of *Mercurius Britannicus*, and was considered an useful partizan on the side of the Parliament. Having become popular, and being an active man among the Parliamentarians, he was commonly called *Captain Nedham*, of *Gray's Inn*, and what he said or wrote was looked upon as Gospel.

About this time he turned his studies to Physic, and in 1645 began to practise it.

After this, he was imprisoned in the *Gatehouse* for aspersing the king in his publications, and upon some occasion of scorn or affront put upon him by his party he left the cause, and obtaining the favour of a known Royalist to introduce him into his Majesty's presence at *Hampton Court*, an. 1647, he knelt before him, and desired forgiveness for what he had written against him and his cause: which being readily granted, he kissed his Majesty's hand, and soon after wrote a new weekly paper entitled *Mercurius Pragmaticus*. In this he was as satirical and witty against the Presbyterians as in the former he had been against the Royalists. When the factious party advanced in power, he judged it expedient to quit London; and for some time secreted himself in the house of Dr. *Peter Heylyn*, at *Minster Lovel*, near

his native place. At length being discovered, he was committed to *Newgate* and his life endangered, *Lenthall* the Speaker of the House of Commons, who knew him well, and *John Bradshaw*, President of the High Court of Justice, not only obtained his pardon, but with promise of rewards and places, persuaded him to take up his pen for the Independents, then the prevalent party.

In their service he published a third weekly paper, entitled *Mercurius Politicus*, commenced in 1649, a work severely hostile to the cause of the Royalists. It was continued till the happy Restoration, (1660) when it was suppressed by order of the *Council of State*.

After this, in 1661, he, by giving money to a Courtier, obtained his pardon under the Great Seal, upon which he resumed the practice of Physic with considerable encouragement among the Dissenters till his death.

Besides the *Mercurii* abovementioned he was the Author of a great number of fugitive and temporary political Pamphlets, which it is now superfluous to enumerate. One work of his, however, has escaped oblivion : its title is, a "Discourse of the excellency of a Free-State above Kingly government." London. 1650. published with the "*Mercurius Politicus*," and reprinted so lately as 1767. It is a learned and methodical work, full of illustrations from Greek and Roman history, often unnecessarily repeated. Its foundation is the natural sovereignty of the people, which principle is ably supported and vindicated. This piece was thought worthy of a French translation in the year 1791.

Another of his political works which may be noticed

was, a translation into English of *Selden's* "Mare clausum," printed in fol. 1652 or thereabouts, to which he added an *Appendix* concerning the Sovereignty of the Kings of *Great Britain* on the Sea, entitled *Additional Evidences*.

After the restoration of King *Charles II.* this copy was corrected by *James Howell*, Gent. ; and printed in *London* in 1662.

The Author likewise displayed his free principles in his own profession, by a work entitled "Medela Medicinæ," printed in 1665, in which he attempted to prove that every man ought to be allowed to undertake the practice of Medicine without previous study in Schools, or the examination of Colleges. This medical heresy was refuted by two Doctors of that faculty, Fellows of the *College of Physicians, London*, viz. : *John Twysden* in his "Medicina veterum vindicata," &c. ; and *Robert Sprackling* in his "Medela ignorantiae," &c.

Needam, in his Preface to a book entitled "A new idea of the practice of Physick, by *Franc de la Bœe*," pub. 1675, says, "four champions were employed by the Coll. of Physitians to write against this book. Two of which are gone already : the third I hear is often buried in ale at a place called *The hole in the Wall*,* and the fourth hath asked me pardon before company, confessing that he was set on by the brotherhood of the confederacy."

The versatility of his principles, and the prostitution

* This was a noted Alehouse in *Baldwin's Gardens, Holborn*.

of his talents are apparent from the preceding sketch of his life.

This Author died suddenly in the house of Mr. *Kidder*, in *Devreux Court*, near *Temple Bar*, and was buried in the church of *St. Clement Danes*, 29 Nov. 1678.

For fuller account see *Athen. Oxon.* Vol. II. pp. 465—471.

Mr. *Needam* commenced each *Pragmaticus* with the following verses :—

- “ A Sect and Jesuit joined in hand,
First taught the world to say,
That Subjects ought to have command,
And Princes to obey.”
- “ These both agreed to have no king,
The Scotchman he went further,
No Bishop—’tis a godly thing,
States to reform by murder.”
- “ Then th’ Independent meek and sly,
Most lowly lies at lurch,
And so to put poor Jockie by,
Resolves to have no Church.”
- “ The King’s dethroned ! The Subjects bleed !
The Church hath no abode.
Let us conclude the’re all agreed,
That sure there is *no God*.”

JOHN WILMOT.

John Wilmot, afterwards Earl of *Rochester*, son of *Henry* Earl of *Rochester*, better known by the title of Lord *Wilmot*, so often mentioned in *Clarendon’s History*, was born at *Ditchley*, near *Woodstock*, April 10, 1648 ; and educated at the Grammar-School here (Burford).

In 1659, he entered a nobleman into *Wadham College*, and in 1661, was, with several other noble persons, created Master of Arts ; at which time he, and none else, was admitted into the fraternity by a kiss on the left cheek from the Chancellor of the University, Lord *Clarendon*.

Afterwards he travelled into *France* and *Italy*, and at his return devoted himself to the Court, and was at length made one of the Gentlemen of the Bedchamber to King *Charles II.*, and Comptroller of Woodstock Park.

Having an active and inquisitive mind, he never, except in his paroxysms of intemperance, was wholly negligent of study ; he read what is considered as polite learning so much, that he is mentioned by *Wood* as the greatest Scholar of all the Nobility. His favourite author in French was *Boileau*, and in English, *Cowley*.

Though these accomplishments rendered him very acceptable at Court, he quitted it to shew his readiness to hazard his life in the defence and service of his country, and shewed great courage in the attack made upon the *Dutch East India Fleet* in the Port of *Bergen* in Norway in 1665.

The summer following he went aboard the ship commanded by Sir *Edward Spragge*, who, in the heat of the engagement, having a message of reproof to send to one of his Captains, could find no man ready to carry it but *Wilmot*, who, in an open boat, went and returned amidst the storm of shot.

After his return from sea he associated with company who loved excess, and in this state he played many frolics

very often to the hazard of his life, which for his honour should not be published.

Of this Lord Dr. *Johnson* observes, "at the age of one-and-thirty he had exhausted the fund of life, and reduced himself to a state of weakness and decay. At this time he was led to an acquaintance with Dr. *Burnet*, to whom he laid open with great freedom the tenor of his opinions, and the course of his life, and from whom he received such conviction of the reasonableness of moral duty, and the truth of Christianity, as produced a total change both of his manners and opinions.

The account of those salutary conferences is given by *Burnet* in a book, entitled, 'History of some passages of the life and death of *John* Earl of *Rochester*,' pub. in 1680, which the critic ought to read for its elegance, the philosopher for its arguments, and the saint for its piety. It were an injury to the reader to offer him an abridgement."

Johnson's English Poets.

This Earl died July 26, 1680, and was buried in *Spelsbury* church, Oxfordshire, leaving behind him a son named *Charles*, who dying Nov. 12, 1681, was buried by his father Dec. 7 following. He also left behind him three daughters, named *Anne*, *Elizabeth*, and *Malet*; so that the male line being extinct, his Majesty *Charles* II. conferred the title of *Rochester* on *Laurence* Viscount *Killingworth*, a younger son of *Edward* Earl of *Clarendon*.

Lord *Rochester* was eminent for the vigour of his colloquial wit, and remarkable for many wild pranks and sallies of extravagance.

The glare of his general character diffused itself upon his writings ; the compositions of a man whose name was heard so often were certain of attention, and from many readers certain of applause. This blaze of reputation is not yet quite extinguished, and his poetry still retains some splendour beyond that which genius has bestowed.

Wood and *Burnet* give us reason to believe, that much was imputed to him which he did not write.

For fuller particulars of this Nobleman, see

Athen. Oxon. Vol. II. pp. 488—491.

Historical, Geographical, and Political Dictionary,
pub. 1694.

Royal and Noble Authors of England, Vol II.
p. 43—48.

Burnet. and

The lives of the English Poets by Dr. Johnson.

CHARLES JENKINSON.

Charles Jenkinson was born May 16, 1727, and received the first rudiments of his education at the Grammar-School here. He took his B.A. and M.A. degrees at Oxford, and in 1753 removed from this University and commenced his career as a man of letters, and is said to have supplied materials for the Monthly Review.

He next commenced political writer ; and in 1756, published a Dissertation on the Establishment of a National and Constitutional Force in England, independent of a standing army.

Soon after this he wrote, "A Discourse on the conduct of the government of Great Britain, with respect to neutral Nations during the present War."

In 1763, he was Secretary to the Treasury.

In 1766, he was nominated a Lord of the Admiralty.

From 1767 to 1773, a Lord of the Treasury.

In 1772, he was appointed one of the Vice-treasurers of Ireland.

In 1778, he was elevated to the post of Secretary of War.

In 1786, he was nominated to the lucrative post of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, created Baron of Hawkesbury, in the county of Gloucester.

He was created Earl of Liverpool, May 18, 1796.

Besides the works that have already been mentioned, his Lordship was the Author of the following :—

"A collection of all Treaties of Peace, Alliance, and Commerce between Great Britain and other Powers, from the Treaty of Munster in 1648, to the treaties signed at Paris in 1783." 3 Vols. 8vo. 1785. And "A Treatise on the Coins of England, in a letter to the King." 4to. 1805.

His Lordship was married, first, in 1769, to Miss *Amelia Watts*, daughter of the Governor of Fort William, in Bengall, by whom he had a son; and secondly, June 22, 1782, to *Catherine*, daughter of the late Sir *Cecil Bishop*, Bart., and widow of Sir *Charles Cope*, by whom he left a son and daughter, viz.: The Hon. *Charles Cecil Cope Jenkinson*, M.P. for Sandwich; and Lady *Charlotte*, married to the Viscount *Grimstone*.

His Lordship died Dec. 17, 1808.

SIR WILLIAM BEECHEY, KNT. R.A.

William Beechey was born here (Burford) in the year 1753, and was at a proper age placed under an eminent Conveyancer at *Stow*, Gloucestershire. A volatile flow of spirits, a bright and active imagination, and a mind eagerly bent upon enquiry, was not to be chained to the desk of a provincial Conveyancer long enough to acquire any deep insight into that abstruse profession.

He had heard much of London—he wished to see London—and to London he accordingly went.

There he articed himself for a given period to a gentleman who died before the expiration of his time, when he made a second engagement with a Mr. *Owen*, of Tooke's Court.

He accidentally became acquainted with several students of the Royal Academy. The objects in which they were engaged attracted and enchanted him: by the splendid assemblage of colours which they mixed upon the *Palette*, and transferred to the canvass, his eye was delighted; and, by the field thus opened to him, his disgust at his original profession increased, and he determined to change his pen for the pencil, his inkstand for the colour-box, and his desk for the easel.

He was

“ Early foredoom'd his father's soul to cross,
And paint a picture when he should engross.”

So powerful was this new attachment, that he did not wait till the expiration of his agreement, but prevailed



SIR W^m BEECHEY, Knt. R.A.

upon Mr. *Owen* to accept of a young man whom he had procured to supply his place, as a substitute for the remaining time of his Articles, and in 1772 he commenced a Student in the Royal Academy.

Considering the number of admirable pictures which this Artist has painted, to point out any in particular, may be deemed rather invidious to such as are not mentioned.

To those who can appreciate their various merits, it would be unnecessary ; to those who cannot, it might be uninteresting.

With respect to his general merit as an Artist, we honour him for his originality, as it shews a noble daring, and gives him a much greater chance of attaining excellence in his profession than those have who servilely walk in the track marked out by others.

When he was little more than 36 years of age, and painting was at a low ebb, he was the first Artist of his day ; and he continued at the head of his profession until his death, being in the last year of his life as superior to his pupils and followers as he was at first.

In 1793 Mr. *Beechey* was elected an Associate, and appointed portrait painter to the Queen, and a Royal Academician in 1797.

In 1798 he executed his principal work, a large equestrian picture of *George III.*, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of York ; attended by Generals *Dundas*, Sir *W. Fawcett*, and *Goldsworth*, reviewing the 3rd and 10th Dragoons ; for which he was knighted by the King.

He died in January, 1839, aged 86 years ; and was buried at *Hampstead* with Academic honours.

Both in morals and painting, he was eminently a respectable man.

For fuller account of Sir *W. Beechey*,
see Biographical Works.



CHAPTER VI.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

BURFORD.

The soil inclines much to gravel, with intervening tracts of black loam and clay. Many parts of this district are low and wet, abounding with meadow and pasture ground.

The Church *here* was united with *Fulbrook* Chapelry as early as the year 1228 as a Document exists to prove, and how long before the Author cannot ascertain.

It *was* in the gift of the Abbot of *Keynsham*, Somersetshire. It is *now* in the patronage of the Lord Bishop of Oxford, value £294 per an.

The Pancake-bell is rung *here* on Shrove-Tuesday yearly just at dinner-time.

Philip Dilwyn said, "Why does the church bell ring only on Shrove-tuesday in the year, just at dinner-time? And why does everybody call it pancake-bell?"

"I believe *Charley*, that the bell was formerly tolled with [a very different object, namely, to call people to church; not for the purpose of bidding them pour the butter into the frying-pan."

“The bell continued to toll, (perhaps as a witness against them) though folks ceased to come to church ; and when the real reason why they were invited to come to church at this time was forgotten, ignorant persons took it into their heads that it had some connexion with pancakes.”

Rev. F. E. *Paget's* Tract called
The Pancake-bell. p. 5.

“It is called Shrove-tuesday, because in old times the people used to go and ‘shrive,’ or confess themselves to the Priest. And no doubt the tolling of the bell on this day was originally intended for the purpose of calling the people to confession, and not, as is supposed now-a-days, to remind them to prepare their dinners.”

Paget. p. 10.

The tables of *Benefactions* in the Church *here* record numerous Charities which have been left at various times, not only for the relief of the Poor, but for many other purposes.* It is unpleasing to find that these well in-

* On the west wall of *Sylvester's* Aisle in a stone monument (cased over with wood) is a well-executed painted stone figure and underneath the following inscription :—

The Statue of that worthy benefactor, John Harris,
late Alderman and Mayor of the city of Oxford : and
native of this place. He gave to the poore of y^s Towne
of Burford £200 to be thus disposed (vizt:) one £100 to
be lent unto Tradesmen gratis, & the profit of the other £100
to place out children Apprentices. He died the 14th of

August 1674.

Erected in grateful memory at the charges of this Towne in the time of	} Richard Haines Edmund Heming	} Bayliffs.
--	-----------------------------------	-------------

tended bequests have of late years suffered considerably from a want of due attention. It is to be hoped that the Charity-Commissioners (who have the management now) will guard every charity of the town from dilapidation and mismanagement in future.

The following is a copy of an inscription on a flat stone within the Altar-rails of this Church :—

“ Here Lyeth the body of
John Pryor, Gent : who was
murdered aud found hidden
in the Priory garden in this
parish the 3^d: day of April
Anno Domini 1697 : and was
Buried the 6th: day of the same
month in the 67th: yeare
of his age.”

On a flat stone in the floor of the Nave, under the Organ-loft, are representations in bronze of a man and his wife in a praying posture. Beneath them is the following inscription in old English :—

“ I pray yow all for charite hertely that ye pray for me, To
oure Lord that syttith on hye.

Ful of grace and of mereye, The wiche rode soler* in this chirche
upon my cost y dede do wuche.

Wt. a laumpe birnyng bright to worschip God both day
& nyght, and a gabul-wyndow† dede do make.

In helth of Soule & for Crist sake, now J hu that dydyst
on a tre on us have mercy & pite. Ame.”

* The word *Rode-Soler* (*Rood-Solar*) means *Rood-loft* in a church. Solar meaning a loft or upper chamber, and is probably used in this instance on account of the rhyme, as it is not commonly used.

† The Author believes this window to be the one now in St.

On the brass scroll issuing from the man's mouth this :

“Mary Moder Mayde, Chr have mey on me Jon Spycer.”

On the brass scroll issuing from the woman's mouth this :

“ And on me Alys his wyff, Lady for thi joyes fyve.”

On brass plates round the stone, the first part of which is gone, this inscription :—

. “quidem Johnes obiit in vigilia purificacinis beatissime virginis Marie anno Domini millmo CCCC tricessimo septimo quor anime et omniu fidelium defunctor per misericordiam dei in pace requiescant. Ame.”

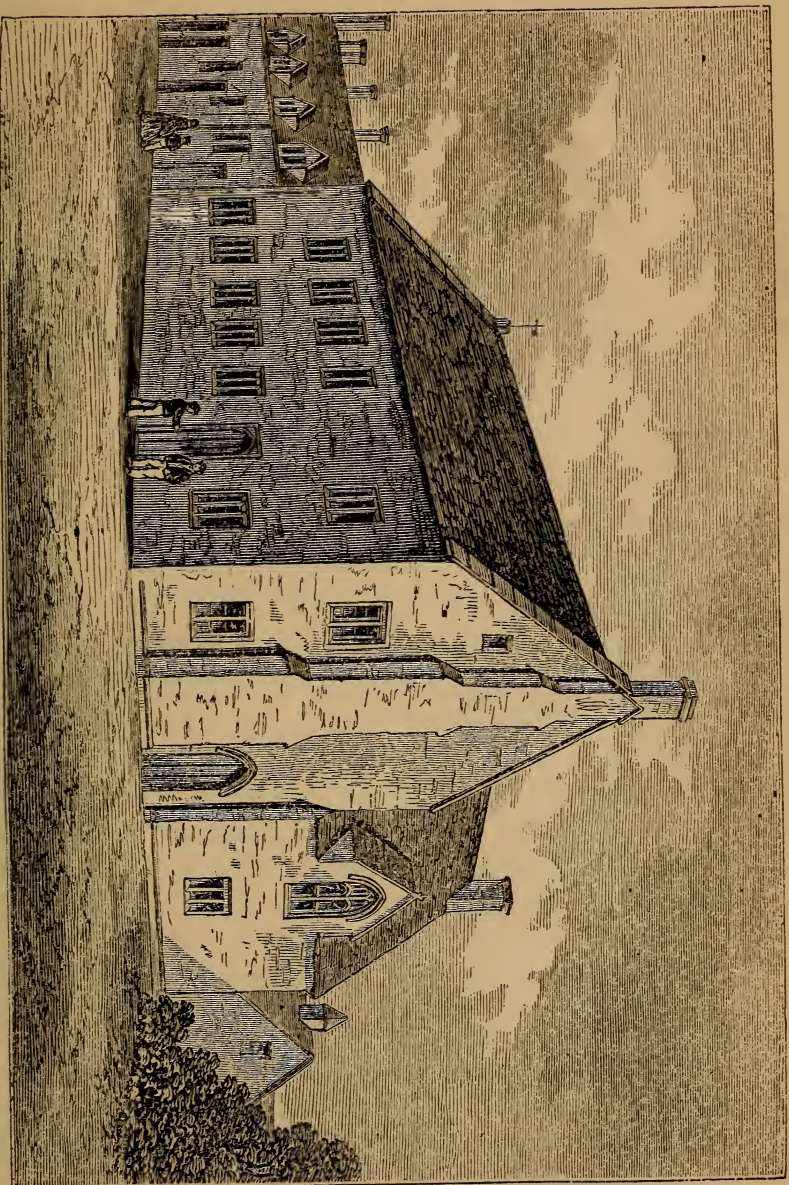
The inscriptions on Altar-tombs, Marble-tablets, and flat stones are far too numerous and lengthy to be inserted in this Work.

An account of the *Charities* was published by the Charity-Commissioners in 1827, and to which the Author refers the Reader.

Here is a Free-School, founded in the year 1571 by *Symon Wysdom* who endowed it with the rent of some land and of several houses in the town, for the maintenance of a Master and Usher, who are to instruct the boys of the place in Grammar, Reading, and Writing.

The Visitor of the School, according to the Founder's Will dated December 1586, was to be his Heir for ever.

Thomas's Chapel, it being the only gable-window in the church. In this chapel the place *formerly* occupied by an Altar is perceptible, and there is a provision in the will of *John Spicer* ordering that lights should always be kept burning there.



BURFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

FOUNDED A.D. 1571.

This Engraving was presented by W. R. COOKE, Esq.

This privilege was enjoyed by Mr. *Robert Wysdom*, of *Shipton*, but in 1743 his Title to Visitor was disputed on the ground of his not being the lawful Heir, and it was afterwards enjoyed by the Corporation of this town.

Many persons of considerable eminence were formerly educated here, as noticed in Chapter V.

The School has been void for some months past, in consequence of the non-appointment of a Master, through neglect; the building, however, is the same as when erected with the exception that a few years ago a high wall was built round the garden and front of the master's house which before were open to the Church-Green.

Here are also three Almshouses for poor Widows, but each is very slenderly endowed, viz :

The *Wysdom* Almshouse in Church-lane has been allowed to fall into ruins.

The one on Church-Green (being 2 Tenements) was founded in the year 1457, by the Earl of Warwick, for 8 aged women, and is still occupied and in good repair.

And the third (being 4 Tenements in a yard called Castle-yard, in Guildenford,) was given, in 1726, by the Will of *John Castle*, Pyhsician, to the use of 4 poor elderly Widows of this town, with endowments for them.

*Getting a prize :—*Mr. *Lenthall*, who was descended from the Speaker of that name, while he lived at the *Priory* here, had a very good butler, who one morning came to him with a letter in his hand, and rubbing his forehead in that indescribable manner, which is an

introduction to something which the person does not well know how to communicate, told Mr. *Lenthall* that he was very sorry to be obliged to leave his service.

“Why, what is the matter *John*? has anybody offended you? I thought you were as happy as any man could be in your situation.”

“Yes, please your Honour, that’s not the thing, but I have just got a prize in the lottery of £3000, and I have all my life had a wish to live for one twelvemonth like a man of two or three thousand a year, and all I ask of your Honour is, that when I have spent the money, you will take me back again into your service.”

“That is a promise,” said Mr. *Lenthall*, “which I believe I may safely make, as there is very little probability of your wishing to return to be a butler after having lived as a gentleman.”

Mr. *Lenthall* was, however, mistaken. *John* spent nearly the amount of his ticket in less than a year. He had previously bought himself a small annuity to provide for his old age; when he had spent all the rest of his money, he actually returned to the service of Mr. *Lenthall*, with whom he lived many years.

<i>Parish</i> <i>Registers</i> :—	}	Baptisms commence	25 March 1612.
		Marriages do.	18 April 1613.
		Burials do.	28 April 1612.

The Rev. *J. H. Burgess*, the Vicar, was presented to the living (which is a discharged Vicarage with the Chapelry of Fulbrook rated in the *Liber Regis* at

£13 ,, 13 ,, 0, but now worth nearly £300 per annum,) by the Patron, and instituted 16 April, 1860.

The tithes, the property of the Bishop of Oxford and the Vicar, were commuted for land in the year 1794.

FULBROOK.

The Manor of *Fulbrook* formerly belonged to *Hugh le Despencer*, the elder, Earl of Winchester, but upon the downfall of that family it was seized by King *Edward III.*, and in the 6th year of his reign, (1333) it was given to *Maurice Lord Berkeley* for his life. At his death the Manor reverted to the Crown, and in the time of King *Edward IV.*, (1461 to 1483) it was given to Lord *Brook*, a favourite of the House of York ; at his death it descended to his son *John Lord Brook*.

At the present day it is possessed by a few Proprietors ; the old Manor-house is in a dilapidated state, and occupied as a Farm-house.



APPENDIX.

NOTES.

A.

Thames, the finest river in Great Britain, takes its rise from a copious spring, called *Thame-Head* 2 miles S.W. of Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

It has been erroneously stated that its name is *Isis* till it arrives at Dorchester, 15 miles below Oxford, when being joined by the *Thame* or *Tame* it assumes the name of *Thames*.

But *Camden* says that the river was always called *Thames*, or *Tems*, before it came near the *Thame*; and in several ancient Charters granted to the Abbey of *Malmesbury*, as well as that of *Ensham*; and in the old Deeds relating to *Cricklade* it is never considered under any other name than that of *Thames*.

All the *Historians*, who mention the incursions of *Ethelwold*, and *Canute*, into *Wiltshire*, concur likewise in the same opinion, by declaring that they passed over the *Thames* at *Cricklade*, in *Wiltshire*.

B.

Radcot-bridge is one of the oldest structures of its kind over the *Thames*, and consists of 3 arches. In con-

sequence of a *cut* completed in 1787, the stream which now flows through them is deserted by traffic.

It was close by that a conflict took place in the days of Richard II., A.D. 1387, between *Robert de Vere*, Earl of Oxford, and several of the nobility, who envied his high favour with the Crown; upon whom, amongst other titles, had been conferred the title of *Duke of Ireland*.

In consequence of an insurrection of the Nobles, this *Earl* fled beyond the sea, of whom *Dugdale* thus writes:—

“But long it was not ’ere he landed in *England* again with about four or five thousand men; and being got into *Oxfordshire*, came to *Radcot Bridge* upon the river *Isis*, on the Feast day of *S. Thomas* the Apostle; which bridge *Henry Earl of Derby* had broken in three places; and fixed souldiers there, to stop his farther passage. The Duke therefore seeing himself in this desperate condition, and that the E. of *Derby* with his power, was not far distant, displaid the King’s banner, and animated his men to fight; advancing before them to the *Bridge*: which being not passable, he allighted from his Horse, and mounted another; purposing to avoid his Enemies by swimming the River: but, being invironed by the *Duke of Gloucester*, on the one side, and the *Earle of Derby* on the other side; he threw away his Sword, Gauntlets, and Armor, and leaping into the River, escaped them. In their pursuit of him, it is said, that his Charriot was taken; and in it the King’s letters, appointing him to hast to *London*, with what strength he had; expressing that he would there be ready to live and dye with him.”

“The Lords therefore being thus powerfull, caused the King to summon a Parliament at *Westminster*. Which being done ; and this Duke (amongst others) called, to make answer to certain Articles of High Treason, then and there exhibited, against him, by the Duke of *Gloucester*, and others ; not appearing, he was forthwith banished ; and all his possessions confiscated, excepting his entailed Lands ; which only were to his right Heirs.

Upon this banishment, being likewise attainted, Outlawed, and fled beyond-Sea, he was at length stricken by a Wild-Boar, in Hunting ; and died of his hurts at *Lovaine*, in anno 1392. (16 Rich. 2.) in great distress and penury. About three years after which ; viz. in *November, ann. 1395.* (19 R. 2.) the king having caused his body to be brought over into *England*, made a solemne funeral for him at *Colne* in Essex ; being present himself thereat with many of the Bishops ; but few of the temporal Lords, their old hatred towards him being not then abated.”

Baronage. p. 195.

C.

Origin and derivation of *Tolsey* or *Toll-booth*.

TOLL. Lat. *Tolnetum*, *Thelonium*. Grk. Τεγώνιον.

Tolsey, n. A place at which tolls were set or assessed ; a tollbooth or custom-house where toll is paid ; an exchange or place of receiving, the *receipt of custom*.

“He saw Matthew sitting at the receipt of custom.”

Matt. ix. 9.

In the *Saxon Charters* *Thol* was the liberty of buying and selling, or keeping a market in such a Manor.

In *later* times, it signified the customary dues or rent

paid to a Lord of a Manor for his profits of the Fair or Market, called the *Tolling-pence*.

Mon. Ang. tom. 2. p. 286.

Alexander Bishop of *Lincoln* gave to the Abbey of *Thame*,—*centum solidos de thelonio Bannebirie*, i. e., one hundred shillings yearly rent out of his toll in *Banbury*.

Mon. Ang. tom. 1. p. 525.

King Henry II. granted a privilege to the Tenants and Traders within the Honor of *Wallingford*,—*ut quieti sint de thelonio*, &c.

R. Dods. M.S. vol. 114. f. 40.

Edmund Earl of *Cornwall* granted to the Rector and *Bonhommes* of *Asherugge* and their Tenants,—*ut in omnibus burgis et villatis nostris et etiam in singulis nundinis et mercatis nostris libere valeant emere et vendere omnes mercandisas absque ullo theolono seu stallagio nobis vel hæredibus nostris inde presentando*.

Mon. Ang. tom. 3. p. 69.

Hence the *Toll-booth* or *Tol-sey*, or place where such custom was paid. This *Toll* at public Fairs and Markets was paid at the sound of a Bell, as we have now a market-bell, which possibly might give name to the tolling of a bell, and to the proverb of *toll'd in*, or drawn into a bargain.

In *Derbyshire* they say, *Thole a while*, that is, stay a while.

Toll-booth, v. a. To imprison in a tollbooth.

“That they might tollbooth Oxford men.”

Bp. *Corbett*.

D.

The yearly value of the *Guild* of our Lady in the parish of *Burford* was £16 ,, 10 ,, 10.

The Brethren of the said *Guild* did at their own cost and charge build the Chapel of our Lady annexed to the Parish church merely out of their devotion, and did find a Priest to minister there, and to teach children freely.

After that, at divers times certain men out of their devotions gave by Will and feoffment unto the said *Guild* lands and tenements to find a Priest, and to help poor people, and to mend the high-ways, and the common bridges of the Town, and use it as it hath been always used.

By Deed dated 11 March 1517 Thomas Pynnock conveyed to Richard Hannes and others two Cottages lying in the Coke-row in High Street to the intent that they should suffer the Proctors of St. Thomas's Chapel in the Church of Burford to receive the rents to the use of the Service of God in the said Chapel and to the sustentation of the said Chapel.

This property was afterwards applied to the maintenance of the Bridge and ways, and is called in the Charity Commissioners' Report of 1827,

THE BRIDGE ESTATE.

E.

The answer to the riddle, is of course,

A, B, I, N, D U N.

F.

There is, I am told, under the whitewash on this wall somewhere above the Pulpit a painting of St. *Christopher*. The parable of this Saint is as follows:—

He was of the land of Canaan, a giant of mighty strength, and he made up his mind that he would serve only the greatest and mightiest Sovereign. He went therefore to the Court of a Monarch whom men called the most powerful, and the Monarch received him most gladly. One day came a Minstrel, and in his song was frequent mention of the Evil One. And when the King heard his name, he crossed himself. Christopher asked him wherefore he did this, and the king replied, "It is to save me from the power of Satan." "Thou fearest Satan," said the giant, "he is greater then than thou art ; him will I serve." So he departed. He journeyed far away and met a troop of armed men, and at their head was a terrible being who asked him, "Whither goest thou?" "I am seeking Satan," answered Christopher. "Behold, I am he," was the answer, and the giant served a new master. Soon he found that Satan dared not pass a cross by the wayside. He asked him, wherefore? And Satan answered, "I fear Christ Jesus who died on the Cross."

So the giant found there was a greater Monarch still, and he sought him far and wide.

At last he asked a holy Hermit, the Hermit answered, "Duties many and hard will thy new master give thee, if thou findest him ; Thou must fast." "Nay," said

Christopher, "by so doing I should lose my strength." "Thou must pray." "Of prayers," answered Christopher, "I know nothing." Then said the Hermit, "Fetch thyself a staff, and go to that river and save all who struggle with the water." Then Christopher was content, and went to fetch his staff for the service. Day and night he was ready bearing the weak upon his shoulders and guiding the strong with his hand, he never wearied, and the Lord looked down from heaven and said, "Behold the man hath found the way to serve me."

And it came to pass one night as Christopher was resting after his toil that he seemed to hear a voice call, "Christopher carry me over," but he saw nothing. Once more he heard the soft call of a child, "Christopher carry me over tonight." And he went forth, and lo, a child sat waiting on the river's bank. So the giant placed him on his shoulder and set out. The wind blew, and the waters rose higher and higher, and the child grew heavy that the strong man's strength well nigh failed him. But with his courageous heart and trusty staff he reached the shore.

"Who art thou child? Thou art heavy even as the world might be." And the child answered, "Thy service is accepted Christopher, plant thy staff and it shall bear leaves and fruit." And then he vanished. But Christopher knew that he had borne the Lord, and he fell on his face, for he had learnt now to worship as well as serve.

G.

Edmundus Harmanus, Armiger. qui D. Deus inumeris beneficiis ab ineunte ætate presquutus est
 Hoc Xpianæ memoriæ monumentum sibi et agneti
 Unicæ et castissimæ conjugii et 16 liberis deo bene
 Dicete exilla susceptis posuit. 1569.

Nullus eram, et faciete Deo sum natus ut esse.

Jam nunc de proprio semine rursus ero.

Inque die magna quæ nunc absupta putamus.

Corpora cernemus surgere tota Deo.

Vellite corde metu mea membra, et credite vosmet
 Cum Christo reditura Deo, nam vos gerit ille
 Et secum revocat, morbos ridete minaces,
 Inflictos casus contemnite, et atra sepulchra
 Despiciate. Exurgens—quo—Christus provocat, ite.
 Christus erit cunctis regnu, lux, vita, corona.

The arms above are—

1st. Three curricombs.

2nd. On a bend between two fleurs de lis, three martlets.

3rd. A chevron ingrailed between three owls.

4th. A fess dancy between six cross-crosslets.

The Crest :—A lion's paw holding a poleaxe.

Under the inscription are images of his nine sons and seven daughters, all kneeling.

H.

TANFIELD'S MONUMENT.

On the ground, a skeleton personating Death.

Over it a table of black marble, supported by small pillars of the same, upon it a man on his back in Judge's

robes with a collar of Esses; and his wife also upon her back.

All arched over, the arch being supported by six pillars of black marble, and four square ones at the corners; at the head, a young woman in a gowne, with a cloak on, and a collar of Esses, kneeling, with hands erect; under her a table of black marble and upon it this inscription:—

Not this small heape of stones & straightnd Roome,
The Benche, the Courte, Tribunall, are his Tombe,
This but his dust, but these his name interre,
And these indeed now but a sepulcher,
Whose meritts only raised him, and made good
His standing there, where few so long have stood,
Pitty his memory ingaged should stand
Unto a private church, not to the land.

On the south side this:—

Here lyeth interr'd Sir Laurence Tanfield, Kt: sometime
one of y^e Justices of his Maj^{ties} Bench, & late Lo: Cheife
Baron of y^e Excheq:, who continued those places of
Judicature 20 yeares, whereⁿ hee survived all the
Judges in every Bench at Westminster.
He left behinde him one onely daught^r. and heire, who
married wth Henry, Lord Viscount Falkland, Lo: Deputy
Generall of Ireland: hee deceased y^e 30 of Aprill An^o. 1625.
His noble & vertuous lady to y^e memory of her most
honour'd husband hath erected this monument of his
vertues and her sorrowes.

At the feet of the two effigies their Crests, viz.:—

1. On a wreath, ar. and sa. a maid from the middle, ar. crined, or.
a wreath of roses round her head, gu. and a necklace, gu.
2. On a wreath, ar. and sa. a swan proper.

Between these Crests, a man in military costume

with hands erect, kneeling; and under him the following:—

Paucam des operam sibi viator,
 Non ignobile, te rogat sepulchrum,
 Olim inter monumenta sanctiora &
 Nepoti critico labor futurus.
 His nempe in spatiis situs quiescit
 Angli præcipuus fori togæq :
 Juris gloria, judicumq : fama
 Prudens causicus, pius senator
 Quo nemo scelus imbrobe redemit
 Leni judice, factus haud minori
 Insons crimine quam fuit scelest'.
 Qui nullo pretio malus, nec unquam
 Vectigal sibi fecerat tribunal
 Puris divitiis honore casto
 Atq : amplissimus unus innocenter,
 Nec vitæ minor artib', domusq :
 Attentissim', & probe severus
 Et rerum bene diligens suarum,
 Parens providus, optim' maritus
 Cunctis officiis nimis probatus,
 Dicam nomen, & hæc minora dixi
 Tanfeildus Baro ; jam tibi scienti
 Narro cuncta sup^r fluus, tibi ipse
 Absolves Epitaphium Viator.

On the north side this :—

Here shadowe lie,	So shall I be,
Whilst life is sadd,	With him I loved :
Still hopes to die,	And hee with mee,
To him she hadd,	And both us blessed.
In blisse is hee,	Love made me Poet,
Whom I lov'd best :	And this I writt :
Thrise happy shee	My harte did doe yt,
With him to rest.	And not my witt.

The Canopy represents the firmament, being profusely studded with Cherubs' faces and stars.

At the top over all, at the corners :—

Tanfield Arms, ar. 2 chevrons bet. three martlets sa. qu. ar.
a chevron sa. between three griffins heads rased gu.

The Crest as the first of the former.

Tanfield imp. B. three trefoils slipped or.

About the monument several quotations from Scripture.

NOTE.—The following are copies of Entries in the *Burgesses'* Account-book commencing with the year 1663 :—

“Decr. 25 : 1703. Ye Lady Tanfields mony disposed by
John Haynes, Will Boules, Bailiffs.

Pa. John Robbins for keeping the Tombe £1 .. 0 .. 0.

The Tombe being damaged by the huricane there
was noe mony for the Widdows this year.”

“The year 1707. The Widdows had not any of the
Lady Tanfields mony by reason the top of the
Steeple was blown down and fell upon the Ile
and damnified the Tombe.”

According to Lady *Tanfield's* Will, dated June, 1629, she left money to be paid half yearly to six poor widows, which sums of money were applied in the years 1703 and 1707 to repairing the tomb.

I.

Domesday-Book. When King *Alfred* divided his kingdom into Counties, Hundreds, and Tithings, he had an Inquisition taken of the several districts and digested into a Register called Dom-boc, i. e., the judicial or judgment book, repositid in the church of *Winchester*,

and thence entitled *Codex Wintoniensis*, to which King Edward, Sen. seems to refer in the first chapter of his laws.

The general survey taken by King *William* the *Conqueror* was after the precedent of King *Alfred*, and seems but a corruption of, or rather an addition to, the same name, Dom-boc into Domesday-book. And therefore a trifling derivation to impute the name to *Domus Dei*, as if so called from the Church wherein it was first repositied. Nor is it any wiser conjecture to ascribe it to *Doomsday* or the final day of judgment. When the appellation does really imply no more than the Doom-book, or Register from which sentence and judgment might be given in the tenure of estates : whence by Latin writers commonly called *Liber Judicialis*.

K.

A Hide was about 100 acres of land, but seems to have been never precisely determined. Some suppose it to have been the old Saxon measure, here reduced to the new measure of Carucates.

The Carucate was as much arable land as could be managed with one plough and the beasts belonging to it in a year. It also was a variable measure, varying at different times and places from about 60 to rather less than 200 acres.

In the Domesday-book it is said in Leicestershire that 14 Carucates and a half make a Hide ; in Lancashire that 6 Carucates make a Hide.

Bondmen, perhaps household bondmen, as distinct from the Villanes who were the agricultural bondmen, and had lands and houses assigned to them.

The Bordars were Cottagers, from the Anglo-Saxon Bord a cottage. They are supposed to have been in not so servile a condition as the others.

L.

The following account is extracted from the Gentleman's Magazine of August, 1799 :—

“In a handsome room upstairs are many pictures. At the end hangs one of Speaker Lenthall in his robes, seated in a chair, his lady sitting by him. On his right hand stand two sons, the eldest a youth, the other in petticoats, a feather in his cap. Behind stand two daughters, one of which is particularly handsome, and in front is another daughter. On the right-hand side of the room hangs the famous picture of the Chancellor Sir Thomas More, and his family. The first figure is Sir John More, his father, in a red gown, seated. On his left is Sir Thomas, in a black gown, his collar on, also seated. On his left stands his son, in black, reading; and behind the two first stands a lady, who was a Ward of the Chancellor, and married to his son. To the left of the son, in front, are the three daughters of Sir Thomas, Margaret, Cecilia, and Elizabeth; the two former are sitting, in conversation, the latter stands behind them. On their left are some relations of the family; an elderly man and his wife, seated; behind them stand two sons, Christopher and Thomas More, the former a man about 30, the latter”

“a youth about 18; all dressed in black, and each figure has a book in hand. Over the last group is represented a picture of a lady, the wife of Sir John. Over several of the heads are Coats of Arms with the Wife’s arms empaled. Qu. Whether the last group are not the family seated at Loxeley, near Guildford in Surrey? Near this hangs a picture of the great Duke of Tuscany, and Machiavel, his Secretary, writing, and taking instructions from the Duke. There are several portraits: Oliver Cromwell (behind the door); Sir Kenelm Digby; the Earl of Pembroke, with his staff as Lord Chamberlain; the Earl of Holland; two of King Charles the First; Gondemar, the Spanish Ambassador (over the door); and several other Noblemen.”

The staircase leading to this room, the Author has been informed was hung with portraits of the Tanfield and Falkland families, and their friends.

M.

Over this entrance are two human figures of stone, before alluded to, between which are the Speaker *Lenthall’s* arms of six quarterings, viz. :—

1. Lenthall.
2. Brandon.
3. Pipards.
4. Badby.
5. Willie.
6. Southwell.

Above the Shield is his Crest.

These arms were in the centre of the South-wing, which was built by the Speaker, until about the year 1808, when they were taken down and placed where they now are.

Another Shield, containing the same Arms, is on the chimney-piece in the large Drawing-room upstairs.

* * Upton and Signet, hamlets in *Burford* parish, and population included therein, half a mile distant W.

The Burford and Fulbrook Magazine was started Sept. 1861.

THE END.

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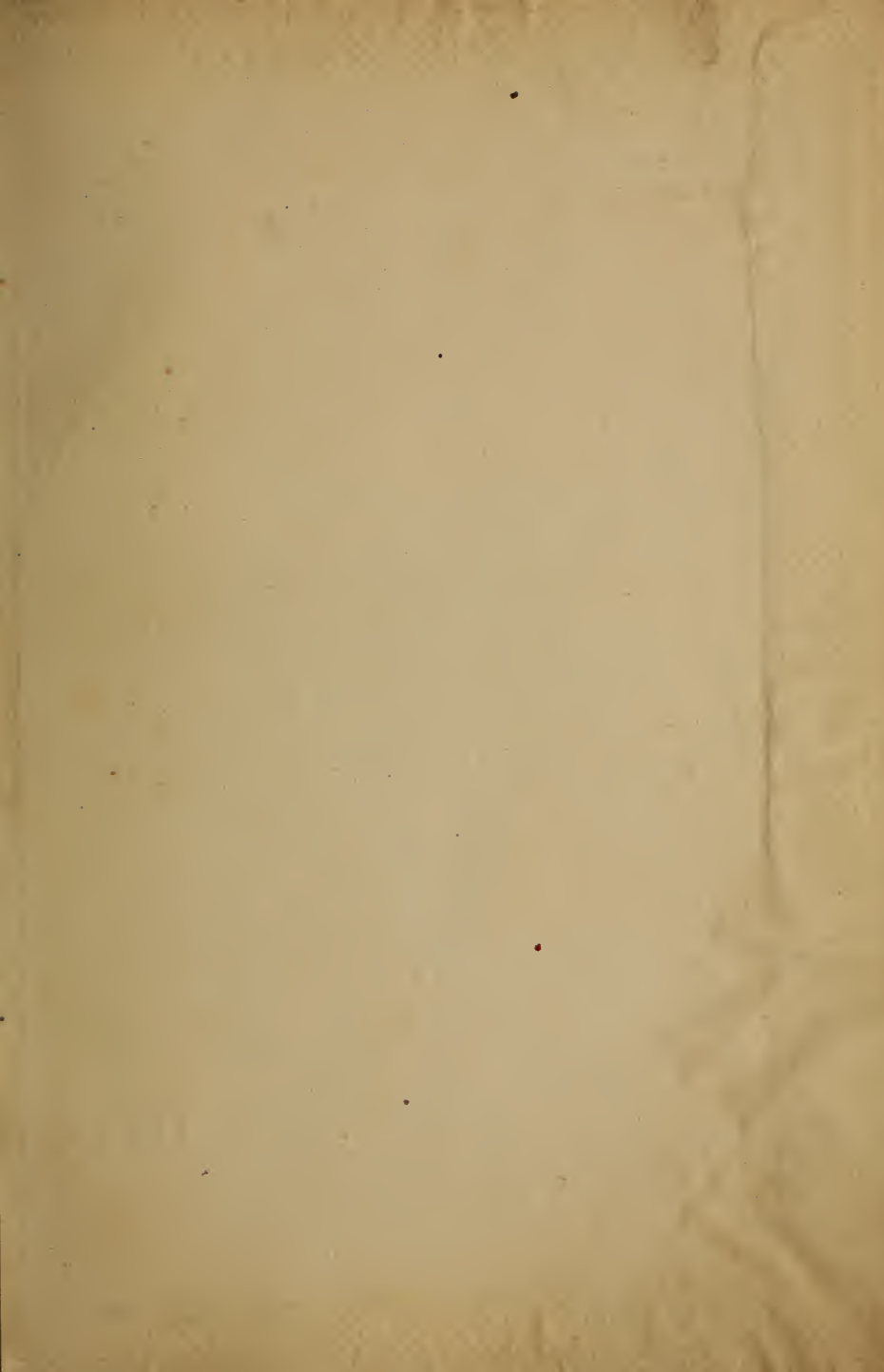
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